

Donovan Bailey: On the fast track to the Atlanta Olympics

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Can Cuba change?

16 There is a new excitement in Cuba, where free-market reforms are helping to alleviate the country's deep economic crisis. Canadian firms have made a host of deals that reform leader Fidel Castro remains wary of change—and of the Americans.

On the fast track

48 Canada's Donovan Bailey—the world's fastest man—has become a hot marketing commodity. With new sponsors and a higher profile, the sprinter from Chelso, Ont., is streaming into the indoor track season with a single goal in mind: gold at next summer's Atlanta Olympics.



Back to Bosnia

26 As U.S. forces strained into Bosnia, 100 Canadians took up a position in the northwest of the country. By next month, a host of 60,000 troops from more than 35 countries, including 1,000 Canadians, will be enforcing the fragile Bosnia peace accord.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Rick Kohn; COVER: Rick Kohn; WORLD: Rick Kohn; BUSINESS: Rick Kohn; SPORTS: Rick Kohn; FILMS: Rick Kohn; THEATRE: Rick Kohn; FORTHCOMING: Rick Kohn

LETTERS

Poll of pessimism

Riding the cover story on the 12th year-end poll ("Can Canada survive?" Dec. 25/Jan. 1), it occurred to me that perhaps a nation that feeds itself with declining living standards and quality of life, despite vast resources and prodigious increases in productivity, can be excused for being cautious and pessimistic.

J. Z. Bialo,
Toronto

It is no wonder the poll results were so depressing when all the media go to great lengths to cover these doomday statistics. How can the people of Canada be optimistic about the future when all they hear is how bad it is? Canada is still the best place in the world to live and raise a family.

John B. Walsh,
Oshawa, Ont.

From sea to sea

Congratulations once again for the recognition of 22 excellent Canadians ("The 1990 Honoree Book," Cover, Dec. 1/8). At the risk, however, of sounding like another whining westerner, I submit (as that only two of the honorees were from outside Central Canada. What about those prominent Canadians of the North, who forged the new territory of Nunavut? What about the no-doubt countless community activists responsible for keeping Atlantic Canadians hopeful in the face of better salaries elsewhere?)

Janis Anne Ngai,
Edmonton, AB

Curriculum vitae

As a one-half of a long-term monogamous same-sex couple, I am embarrassed and disgusted by these so-called gay activists like Ryerson Polytechnic University instructor Gerald Haxton, who claims to speak for all homosexuals ("Plying a teacher" in an employer's right," Column, Dec. 1/8). Since your production and engineering is a pure blue collar career move? The incoherence and open-mindedness that my companion and I have experienced while sojourning in Toronto has encouraged us to dream of someday living and working in Canada, that is if Haxton and other "activists" don't spoil it for us first.

David M. Zacher,
Indianapolis



1990 poll asks: Canada is still the best

Those of us who see marriage as merely a degraded form of prostitution (same old job, year after year, and babies on top of it) are astonished that Barbara Amiel could "disapprove of hookers as teachers." Shouldn't she applaud our entrepreneurial spirit? Our resourcefulness? The rich vein of experience we could share with our students?

Gerald Benson,
Toronto, ON

I was dismayed to see that one of your better writers, Barbara Amiel, incorrectly used the term schizophrenia in her Dec. 18 column. Schizophrenia is not a valid personality, as Amiel implies. Some 270,000 ill-defined Canadians and their relatives know how harmful it is every time a journalist thoughtlessly employs an erroneous, outdated cliché about schizophrenia, instead of taking the time to find a correct and appropriate term.

Judy Wiles,
President, British Columbia
Schizophrenia Society,
Richmond, B.C.

Guest list

In reference to "Caught in the cross fire" describing Canadian actor Matt Frewer's portrayal of Alexander Haig in the movie *Dragonair* and *Yankee People*, Dec. 1/10, Frewer states: "Haig's not somebody you'd want to invite to a cocktail party." Having served with Gen. Haig when he was supreme Allied commander in Europe (even though he got the appointment on the political note), he said his wife, Pat, was among the first people I would invite to a cocktail party.

Bob Shapiro, retired major-general
Toronto, Ont.

Legal separation

Diane French's column "The co-separated who wants to leave Canada" (Dec. 25/Jan. 1) is a welcome call to all Canadians who were on the brink of giving up on Quebec, and on Canada as a united country. Surely, we can send Guy Bertrand our support for his next and most important challenge to the separation, an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

William A. Paik,
Brampton, Ont.

Guy Bertrand's legal position, while admirable, is flawed. Quebec's decision to leave Canada will be a unilateral one: the right to self-determination, no matter how wrongheaded Quebec's position might seem, is guaranteed by the charter of the United Nations. Bertrand's legal position is a far better one. Quebec has long enjoyed freedoms not given to other provinces and might do far worse outside of Confederation than in it. But if Quebec votes to leave Canada, it is in the best interest of remaining Canadians to accept this separation with as little disruption as possible. The present situation of uncertainty is untenable.

Edward Skinder,
Sarasota, Fla. 34

Making a pass

In his article "Office-party hell" (Personal Business, Dec. 1/1), Ross Lawer correctly describes how many office parties get out of hand, some even ending with charges of sexual harassment. His advice, however, that "if you really must make a pass at a co-worker, at least make sure that it's someone higher up in the corporate ladder" is misguided at best. Sexual harassment is not only perpetrated by superiors on subordinates. In fact, research suggests that 40 more sexual harassment is perpetrated by employees against co-workers at the same level than superiors on subordinates, and is close to 10 per cent of all sexual harassment reports refer to behaviors perpetrated by subordinates on supervisors.

John Darling,
School of Business,
Queen's University,
Kingston, Ont. K

Maclean's column editors: since the letter might elicit an angry reply, please accept my deepest apologies to reader Bill Leblond in the Editor Maclean's magazine 177 Bay St. Toronto Ont. M5H 3K2 for the letter on Dec. 1/10.
Bill Leblond, retired major-general
or 7630-2347/comp@ercc.com



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OPENING NOTES

Rethinking the commercial

The relationship between commercial TV and its sponsors is becoming more convoluted than ever. United Artists and NBC, for instance, have become particularly cozy. The Chicago-based airline offers the top-rated sitcom

Seinfeld on many of its flights, free of charge. And now, United will offer its regular customers a chance to appear on the half-hour weekly comedy. A wife-on-a-rail role will be marketed as the highest bidder—with frequent-flyer points as the bidding currency. And Atlanta-based Coca-Cola USA has linked up with another NBC sitcom, *Friends*, for an unusual but complicated contest. Throughout January, consumers featuring one of the show's six stars—including Canadian Matthew Perry—will be broadcast each week. Viewers can then match Diet Coke caps bearing the actors' names for a chance

to win such prizes as *Friends* merchandise and T-shirts. A one-hour episode of *Friends* will also follow the Jan. 25 Super Bowl game, when 130 airline-paid trips to Las Vegas are up for grabs. "The target market we are aiming at, the 18 to 34 age group, is a perfect match with the *Friends* audience," says Coca-Cola spokeswoman Donna Garza. "With everyone fighting for their attention,



Cost of *Friends*: Jerry Seinfeld (top), *Married With Children*

will better get the involved. It's no longer just a promotion—it's a lifestyle." A lifestyle in which the line between promotion and commercial is increasingly blurred.

The ultimate tropical island escape

The tiny Indian Ocean island republic of Seychelles (population 73,060) has a novel approach to attracting foreign investment. In November, it passed a law prohibiting the extradition of any foreigner who donates \$13 million into its economy. So far at least four men that U.S. law enforcement

officials suspect of extensive criminal activities in Europe have received citizenship papers and are settling in and out of Europe on Seychelles passports that presumably added \$12 million to local coffers.

Strangely, the scheme is operating in a country that has a constitution with a strong Canadian connection. Ron Strayer, a Federal Court judge and Ottawa-based constitutional expert, helped draft the Seychelles Constitution in 1976. So, could such a scheme work here? One senior finance official in Ottawa, while noting that it seemed like that would be useful as Ottawa's battle against the deficit, allowed that "the justice department might have a few qualms about the price we'd pay."

Seychelles: Off citizenship



Monarch butterfly: devastation

Tragedy in a Mexican forest

The return of the majestic monarch butterfly to Canada from its ancient breeding ground in the mountains of south-central Mexico nearly kept the alert of summer. But last week, a mass mortality and unusually cold weather in the region may have killed as many as one-third of the 11 million to 15 million monarchs in their winter home. To make matters worse, the monarch population is still recovering from a devastating Mexican drought in February, 1992. They are also threatened by local farmers in their wintering grounds who are logging his orchard trees, a type of fir that provides shelter during winter weather. *Source: facts about the monarch*

• More than a million monarchs migrate almost 3,000 km from Canada each autumn to their wintering grounds in remote mountain valleys in south-central Mexico.

• It takes four generations of monarchs to complete the journey home to Canada, but the returning butterflies have a longer lifespan and can complete the migration to Mexico in one season.

• Canada and Mexico last year named three Canadian sites and five sanctuaries in Mexico as part of an international network of monarch butterfly reserves.

• Scientists located the wintering grounds only in 1981 after 45 years of research by University of Toronto entomologist Fred Urquhart.

POP MOVIES

Top movies in Canada according to box-office receipts during the seven days that ended at Jan. 4 (in brackets, weekend-of-theatrical opening)

1. *Top Gun* (12/18) \$2,280,430
2. *Jurassic Park* (12/18) \$1,814,130
3. *Week* (12/18) \$1,462,140
4. *Strawberry Shortcake* (12/18) \$1,062,420
5. *Forever of the Future* (12/18) \$1,032,380
6. *Backfire* (12/18) \$1,008,790
7. *Butcher's Boy* (12/18) \$1,004,230
8. *Term of Endearment* (12/18) \$1,001,110
9. *Earthquake* (12/18) \$1,000,000
10. *Cathedral Hill* (12/18) \$1,000,000

The 'Western way'

Six months ago, John Laschinger did not know where Kingstons was, but that did not stop the Canadian political consultant from playing a key role in that country's recent elections. Laschinger, who is now associated with Toronto-based (Gibbs) Associates, became involved last September after being introduced to the election team of president Askar Akarov, a proponent of foreign investment. "When Akarov called the election last September, he decided he wanted to do it the Western way," says Laschinger, who in late October made the 26-hour journey to the Kyrgystan capital of Bishkek. There, armed with a passport, he traveled through the snowy mountain side of 90 a day—in the art of trying to defeat the myriad of the voters. Poll results showed an overwhelming perception that Akarov was in touch with the people. As a result, his campaign slogan became "With the people, for the people," which Laschinger had printed on 10,000 buttons and 100,000 shopping bags in Russian and the local language, Kyrgyz. Near the end of his two-week stay, Laschinger was called on to brief Akarov—in a sauna. "You always want to come clean with your candidate," he joked, "and this was a real selling point."

In the final 12 days before the Dec. 24 election, Laschinger worked on the campaign from his



Laschinger: embracing democracy

Toronto office, the funding in part provided by interested Canadian firms. The pollsters in Bishkek sent overnight numbers to Toronto, where the analysis, including graphs and notes, was completed and returned within hours. A preliminary count suggests that Akarov captured more than 75 per cent of the vote. Laschinger says an even more significant fact is that more than 85 per cent of eligible voters cast their ballot. "They have embraced democracy," he says.

To serve, protect—and pay the mortgage

The Mounties may always get their man—but they can't always get their own people to cooperate. According to a recent internal survey, two-thirds of the 2,200 members of the federal force serving in and around Vancouver want to be transferred. It is also difficult to attract recruits to the area. The reason: the cost of living in Vancouver is 20 per cent higher than the national average. In addition, pay rates compare poorly with those at other Vancouver-area police forces, with a single sergeant earning \$21,000 a year, versus \$30,000 less than a firefighter working on local municipal forces. The disparity increases with rank. Solicitor General Herb Gray says he is now considering a proposal to grant Mounties a Vancouver freeze allowance rising from \$75,000 to \$100,000 a year.

This is not the first time that the RCMP has had

to deal with a rebellion against the high cost of big-city living. More than three years ago, the force sued its Ontario headquarters from Toronto to London. The Mounties now carry out

federal duties in downtown Toronto from their outlying detachments in Mississauga, Newmarket and Downsview. "We can drive into Toronto within 45 minutes," says Sgt. Stuart Gilmore, an RCMP spokesman in London, "and the members like to know that they can get back to their homes in 45 minutes." In Vancouver, Sgt. Rick Desnoes is looking forward to seeing the problem addressed. "No one wants to be transferred to Vancouver," he says, "so you're here, you aren't ever going to get it." Still, it is a life or death matter that many Canadians could appreciate.



Edited by BARBARA WICKENS

PASSAGES

LAUNCHED: A \$80-million lawsuit against the CBC by German-Canadian Karlheinz Schreiber, in Alberta, whom he has business interests. Last year, the TV network's 40th anniversary program, including Schreiber, 61, and former Ottawa lobbyist Frank Moore to alleged to kickbacks in Air Canada's \$1.8-billion purchase of Airbus. Last week, Schreiber maintains his innocence, and Moore promotes similar legal action. In November, former prime minister Brian Mulroney launched a \$50-million suit against Ottawa and the RCMP for alleging that he received kickbacks in the deal.

GRANDIES: Bill to Andol Toulon, 24, charged with trying to kill Prime Minister Jean Chrétien during a Nov. 5 break-in at 24 Sussex Drive, on condition that he remain in an Ottawa psychiatric hospital with his next court appearance on Jan. 18. Dufaire has also been charged with theft under \$5,000 from the suburban Montreal corner store where he died to work.

DIED: Rock scientist Arthur Rodolph, 88, after slipping into a coma at his home in Hanburg, Rodolph, who was involved with George's production of the V-8 rocket (during the Second World War), later moved to the United States and died in 1990. He returned to Germany in 1984 after the pastor department accused him of war crimes, which Rodolph denied.

ACKNOWLEDGED: A drug problem by Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona. Maradona, 35, said in a magazine interview that he waged a constant fight against the temptation to resume taking cocaine. Over the past five years, Maradona has twice been banned from playing soccer because of drug abuse.

RELEASED: Alan patient Jeff Gray, 39, from a San Francisco hospital after receiving an experimental transplant of baboon bone marrow on Dec. 14 to boost his immune system. Doctors noted that it is no easy to say whether the experiment worked.

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BY CHARLES GORDON

On the Trans-Canada Trail, you will encounter the Labatt blue jay, Tim Hortons' sunset and perhaps the Hair Club for Men bald eagle

about. Some people blame the Charter of Rights and Freedoms for this. Nobody complained about anything before Trudeau started messing with the Constitution. Whatever the reason, this country might never have been explored if the job were to start today.

That being Canada and this being the Nineties, the media aims, real and potential, will learn themselves into associations and consensus to logistic and minor ultimata, which the media will dutifully cover. The wilhelm will see the doors who will use the newsmobilers. The bicyclist will go for the upholders presenting horses from using the trail. Europeans will call news reader effects and announce a hypothesis of some unrelated Canadian thing—communications software, perhaps—on the grounds of our civility to horses.

Before even that can happen, of course, various constitutional obstacles will have to be dealt with: is a federal or provincial if a moose collides with a bicycle, can a provincial tourism department cover up federal scenery with a sign promoting it, is a canoe a vehicle, and which deer zone is that heavy deer in?

Such discussions are inevitable. They are part of our national experience. There will be orders issued by American Express, and there will be lawsuits filed in the courts of the law, at universities and in the homes of citizens. American tour buses will be parked in front of some of the greatest views. Other views will be obscured by signs, in two languages, exhorting travellers against spilling, smoking, littering, drinking too heavily, eating fatty foods, playing loud music and disturbing others. Other signs will self-censor: state the various levels of government that have contributed financially to the existence of the trail. In Ontario and Alberta, such signs will be absent, their place taken by signs exhorting travellers against carousing, drinking too heavily, smoking, littering and drinking.

Still, it will be great having a Times-Canada Trail, with all that scenery, all those opportunities for Canadians to share experiences. It goes without saying that it will be a mile trail. High fences will protect hikers from any size involving the slightest dog. Plus, signs with little pictures on them will warn people of the existence of water, mountains, curves, bends, hills, and even the crossing of other trails. Ideal sites for photography will be designated. Picnic-taking at other sites will be at your own risk.

Most other risks will be avoided. Much of the trail will be along abandoned railway lines, providing an excellent opportunity for young Canadians to get as much of the train experience as they are ever going to get.

Since then Canada, there will have to be telephones along the trail: 750 days is a long time to go without a call for the world's most active telephoner, in fact, two hours is too long. Another nightmare occurs—potential warlike between those who see the trail as a last opportunity to encounter silence and those who see it as an opportunity to test cellular-phone range. (Hey, hear that silence. Guess where. Do phones travel?)

In Quebec, the Trans-Canada Trail will be known as the Quebec Trail. Signs warning against feeding the bears will be in French, only Bears will be bigger.

In keeping with the spirit of the Ministère, the active participation of the private sector will be encouraged. We have become accustomed to that, in the era of the Proud Province, the Day of the Day and the Pro-Pro-Blood Day of the Week. On the Trans-Canada Trail, you will encounter the Canadian Tire jack pine, the Lambert Bay, Tim Hortons' sunset, the Bank of Montreal red squirrel, the Microsoft sponge moss and perhaps the Hair Club for Men hair eagle. Forest rangers could be warning Peeps Quid jockies and you know what any Manitoulin encountered along the way will be warning.

All of these fine organizations will deserve our gratitude for this unique experience. Few nations in the world afford their citizens this kind of opportunity—for residents of each of our regions to experience, in an intimate and personal way, each of the other regions, and to complain about the weather in them.



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A BLOODY BIKER WAR

An inside look at Quebec's battlefield

For the past three months, a special Quebec police squad aimed at crushing criminal activities by the province's motorcycle gangs has conducted a series of raids on biker hideouts in and around Montreal. The squad has seized a wide array of weapons, including explosives, raincoats, guns and semi-automatic pistols, and made a number of high-profile arrests—including, most recently, charging well-known Hells Angels leader Gilles Candolin with conspiring in criminal murder. The squad is attempting to quell a bloody turf-war between the Rock Machine and their arch-enemies, the Hells Angels—a feud that has led to at least 10 deaths in the Montreal area and the loss of 20 lives over the past 18 months. One lone player of the Quebec battleground is David Wolf, 45, a professor of anthropology at the University of Prince Edward Island and the author of the 1991 book *The Rebels: A Brotherhood of Outlaw Bikers*. To research that book, the Calgary-born Wolf spent three years riding with an Edmonton biker gang, the White Wolf. He stayed in close contact with members of the biker gangs—and with the police forces that deal with them. Here, he reflects on the history behind the Quebec war and what may lie ahead.

BY DANIEL WOLF

Quebec has the dubious distinction of being all other provinces in biker land's backyard—*le sud* since 1980. But this is no more than a battle for prestige and political status in the world of outlaw bikerdom. At stake are the streets of Montreal, the multination-dollar crown jewel of Quebec's soft drug trade. This helps explain why one of North America's bloodiest gang wars is unfolding in Canada. However, not all the major players in this conflict are based in the gang province, nor are they visible on the playing field. It is a struggle that involves background support from traditional crime families on one hand, and, on the other, an ambitious plan by Hells Angels led for international domination.

The Rock Machine emerged in Quebec City and Montreal in the early 1980s. The club is a relative newcomer, but its members are all veteran campaigners, remnants of local clubs that no longer exist. On the surface, the Rock Machine runs automobile repair shops, late-night bars and bars, as well as motorcycle repair shops. Its members conduct the more legitimate side of their business in the shadows of street lamps and the smoke of beerrooms. There they deal drugs that they have obtained from local crime families and other entrepreneurs from South American cartels. In addition to being drug middlemen, they act as intermediaries for more traditional criminal organizations.

Left to its own resources, the Rock Machine would not have lasted



Bikers at Enaud's funeral in Montreal. Wolf (left) in gear, 20 people died in the past 18 months

18 months against the Angels that, in Quebec's public Security Minister Serge Marchand has suggested, it is not acting alone. The Rock Machine has allied with traditional Montreal organized crime families to form what has come to be known as the Alliance. The crime families are funding the Rock Machine war effort in an effort to stave off the over-encroachment of their long-standing turf by Quebec's Hells Angels, or "Les Hells".

According to latter, there are currently close to 50 chapters of the Hells Angels operating in 16 different countries. The Angels first entered Canada in 1977, when they incorporated a Montreal club, then known as the Popeye's. Today, the Angels have 11 Canadian chapters—five in British Columbia, five in Quebec, and one in Idaho. Although they have fewer than 350 members in Canada, they exercise enormous criminal clout. The Angels' Quebec operations are managed by 14 "patch holders." These 14 Angels "by color" (that is, they wear a club emblem on the back of their leather jacket or vest)—with a line across the bottom that reads "Quebec" it is a statement of the territory they claim.

None of the north-side Angel chapters makes any major move without approval from the "mother" chapter in Oakland, Calif. In October, 1994, Les Hells decided that they wanted more of the Montreal drug street trade. With the endorsement of Sonny Burger, the unofficial

world chairman and president of the Oakland chapter, the Quebec Angels put a plan in motion. Quebec Angels president Maurice (Maur) Boucher met with representatives of the Alliance to negotiate for some street territory that the sales issue broke down and the violence began. The use of affidavits or secondary clubs is an international trademark of the Hells Angels. The purpose of these clubs? The Angels are able to expand their domains without alienating their organization or jeopardizing their own members. Equally as important, by discrediting themselves from the hands-on work of street-level distribution and enforcement, the Angels further insulate themselves from prosecution.

That helps explain an enigma that hangs over the Quebec conflict: why it is that most of the people who have died have been associates, not members, of the opposing faction? The fact is that both sides are terminating their crime's superstructure, not their legions. If you supply the drugs and control those who sell the drugs, then you control the city. Everyone in the criminal community knows what you talked, under what circumstances, and why. The message on the street is that if you are a drug dealer and buying your product from the Rock Machine, there is a chance that you are going to wake up on the next morning and find an Angel in your backyard. Although club members may be willing to put their lives on the line, street-level drug dealers are not. Both the Angels and the Rock Machine are attempting to cripple each other's organization by taking away their source of income and power. The one notable exception to this rule was the shooting of Richard (Crow) Enaud. He was likely targeted not because he was chief strategist for the Hells Angels' "True Riders" chapter. More to the point, Enaud was the "Filly Fw"

when he had it stolen, motorcycle money and weapons completely control any consideration of the criminal world of the biker world—and brother kills brother. None of the mistakes that I made with regard the prospect of having to break the bones of another biker. Nor did they talk forward to having to live with the human syndrome that dominates a conflict in which there are no rules. I came to realize that the willingness of an outlaw to lay down his life in these circumstances is beyond a belief, beyond a belief, beyond a belief that knows no challenge. When a patch holder defends his chapter, he defends his personal identity, his community, his lifestyle. When a war is on, loyalty to the club and one another comes out of the realm of design, out of the realm of possible injury, possible loss, war. Whether one considers this process as desperate, heroic, or just outlandishly foolish

and brutal does not really matter. What matters is that, for patch holders, the brotherhood emerges as a necessary feature of their continued existence as individuals and as a group. How is that Quebec law is nearly to play out? The current police action has lowered the intensity and public profile of the street battles being fought. But surveillance and arrests by themselves will not end the conflict. The Hells Angels probably did not anticipate that they were getting into a prolonged conflict. They underestimated the resolve of the Rock Machine. More importantly, they did not anticipate that their rivals would be so intent on the traditional crime families of Montreal's end end. But now the Hells Angels have never lost a war. Not can they any longer accept a draw. The Montreal conflict has pushed the attention of local and international media. A trace would guarantee the eradication of their image, and thereby jeopardize their plan to capture Quebec. The fighting will end when the Angels was 11.

The Angels have never lost a war. And they cannot accept a draw.

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patch of the Angels, an honor reserved for those who have killed for the club. On the streets, Enaud was known as an accomplished assassin. He had six skulls—one for each kill—placed on the gut tank of his Harley.

Not all outlaw motorcycle clubs in Canada want to fly the infamous red and white colors featuring the Angels' winged devil's head. Several, in fact, have formed alliances whose explicit purpose is to keep the Angels out of Ontario. In terms of prestige, power and profit, that province is Canada's greatest prize. But despite their attempts over the past 20 years, the Angels have been unable to gain a foothold there. As an Ontario contractor—lost most notably by the Angels' arch-enemy, the Outlaws—treated pro-Angel Ontario clubs with "extreme prejudice." For example, a spokesman for the Wild Ones of Hamilton was negotiating an alliance with the Angels in 1980 when he and two Angels were shot to death in a Montreal restaurant.

But according to David Wolf, Jean-Pierre Lavoie of the Ottawa-based Criminal Infringement Service Canada, it is almost certain that when—not if—the Angels secure Montreal, they will have a base from which to launch an invasion into Ontario. There is a right for the Angels to make such a move. The Outlaws have scored the anti-Angel alliance through drug deals gone bad. The RCMP have noted that the declining fortunes of the Outlaws may create a power vacuum in Ontario, one that the Angels would be all too willing to fill.

For an outlaw biker, the province has a lot of the police, rather than a slight extension of his own inner anger: the patch holder of another club. Under slightly different circumstances, those men would call each other "brother." But when turf is at stake, motorcycle money and weapons completely control any consideration of the criminal world of the biker world—and brother kills brother. None of the mistakes that I made with regard the prospect of having to break the bones of another biker. Nor did they talk forward to having to live with the human syndrome that dominates a conflict in which there are no rules. I came to realize that the willingness of an outlaw to lay down his life in these circumstances is beyond a belief, beyond a belief, beyond a belief that knows no challenge. When a patch holder defends his chapter, he defends his personal identity, his community, his lifestyle. When a war is on, loyalty to the club and one another comes out of the realm of design, out of the realm of possible injury, possible loss, war. Whether one considers this process as desperate, heroic, or just outlandishly foolish

and brutal does not really matter. What matters is that, for patch holders, the brotherhood emerges as a necessary feature of their continued existence as individuals and as a group. How is that Quebec law is nearly to play out? The current police action has lowered the intensity and public profile of the street battles being fought. But surveillance and arrests by themselves will not end the conflict. The Hells Angels probably did not anticipate that they were getting into a prolonged conflict. They underestimated the resolve of the Rock Machine. More importantly, they did not anticipate that their rivals would be so intent on the traditional crime families of Montreal's end end. But now the Hells Angels have never lost a war. Not can they any longer accept a draw. The Montreal conflict has pushed the attention of local and international media. A trace would guarantee the eradication of their image, and thereby jeopardize their plan to capture Quebec. The fighting will end when the Angels was 11.

'Let the people speak'

Grassroots unity groups challenge the politicians

The taught came to Myriam Laberge during a flight back to her home in Vancouver from a conference in San Francisco. Brothers Fred and Robert Robertson, both noted economists, reached the same conclusion while playing last season's golf at the Royal Otawa Golf Club. The identical thought struck Charles Schorn, a past store owner with a PhD in genetics, while he was jogging outdoors and watching deer chase

a public conference on the same topic at McGill University on Jan. 31, featuring separatist-turned-federalist lawyer Guy Bernard. At about the same time, For the Love of Canada, a group based in Kingston, Ont., expects to release research material for what it hopes will be a national day of discussion about the country's future in schools, homes and businesses, to be held on Feb. 19. And on March 2, yet another con-



Laberge: "There isn't a whole lot that you do, right?"

Each of the line-ups and a striking number of other Canadians coast-to-coast—have since taken action to see that that happens. With friends, Laberge sponsored a public meeting in Vancouver on Jan. 8, where more than 300 people discussed their vision of the country. The Robertson brothers formed what they call The October 27 Group, named for the date of last autumn's mass pro-Canada rally in Montreal, to mobilize grassroots support for Quebecers who voted No. Schorn and Laberge both also planned to attend Laberge's meetings have organized their own groups at which Canadians eager to become involved in the search for national reconciliation can discuss their views.

They are not alone. Galvanized by the outcome of the referendum, Montreal businessman Mark Kotler, who claims never to have so much as written a letter to an editor, last November founded the Citizens' Council for a New Province, which plans to hold pro-Canada rallies in several Quebec centres later this month. Another Montreal group, the Special Committee for Canadian Unity, plans to hold

meetings will examine the future in Vancouver, this one sponsored by several members of the Canadian Bar Association.

For many of those behind the spirit of new new the nation campaign, the motivation is intensely personal. Eleanor Betty Lytle resolved to launch For the Love of Canada after watching the referendum results with her daughter, Mary Beth. "For me there was no choice," she told *Weekend*. "I need to do whatever I can do." And in a view that organizers of several of the other national play-boys, Jeffrey Scowen, a Vancouver lawyer involved in planning the March conference, worries that Canadians want find a solution to their personal divisions soon—or else

demolition. "We had a regime," says Scowen, "and we are losing our chance."

Whether so called ordinary Canadians can succeed where their political elites have failed is far from certain. Similar endeavors have been tried before. Indeed, Mulroney's itself sponsored one of the earliest attempts in 1991, when it invited 12 representative Canadians to draft a declaration of shared national principles. At about the same time, the federally funded Citizens' Forum on Canada's Future sponsored a series of nationwide discussion groups similar to those now spearheaded by For the Love of Canada. Whatever common cause either efforts managed to reach, they plainly failed to alter the historic errors that led to last fall's re-sounding federal victory in the referendum.

At the same time, the groups that have sprung up in response to the referendum vote seem to share few views beyond the conviction that politicians have fumbled the ball on national unity and ordinary citizens must pick it up. The October 27 Group, for one, argues that Ottawa should take a hard line against Quebec's separatists, using its reserve powers under the constitution to prohibit any future referendum—or secession—in areas of Quebec that voted No in the last vote, including Montreal. British Columbia's Scowen and New Brunswick's Schorn, by contrast, argue that other Canadians must rethink their opposition to recognizing Quebec as a distinct society. "Genuine Canada changes," warns Schorn. "Quebec will wait for the next time."

For Myriam Laberge, meanwhile, the answer may lie at either extreme—or somewhere in between. The Alberta-born meetings discuss agenda that she has not thought much about, what lies at the heart of the nation, or what its future should be

in the wake of the referendum, she says. "My first anger was at myself," she thought. "I have abdicated my responsibility as a citizen." Even now Laberge considers that she has no clear view of what shape a national reconciliation might take, only a faith that "there is a wisdom that can be tapped in people." But despite her own uncertainty and those that doubt over Canada's future, Laberge is optimistic on one point: "We have it in us." That, at least, is one idea that a growing number of other Canadians gladly share.

CIMES WOOD in Vancouver with MARLENE MONTAGNI in Montreal and MELANIE AXTELL in Montreal

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CANADA

Ontario's 'Bully Bill'

Critics attack the Tories' omnibus legislation

Critics call it the "Bully Bill," and Haed McCulloch, the mayor of Mississauga, Ont., cannot wait to see it. In his drive to rid of Ontario's deficit, Premier Mike Harris wants to consolidate more power not only in the office of his cabinet minister, but in city halls as well. So that end, he is pushing through Bill 26, a sweeping proposal to amend nearly 47 existing provincial laws. It would allow his government to bring down spending quickly by tearing up union contracts and closing hospitals and schools. The omnibus bill would even empower the government to regulate where doctors can practice and how many prescriptions they can hand out. Local governments, meanwhile, would be allowed to cover shortfalls in future provincial funding by levying an array of new service charges. McCulloch, whose municipality lies just west of Toronto, is ready to act. "I don't want it," the mayor said in a legislative committee examining the bill. "This bill will remove the focus from around the needs of municipalities."

Opposition parties, however, do not share McCulloch's enthusiasm. And the angry debate over Bill 26, which has been named by politicians bashing their desks and screaming at one another in the legislature, is expected to increase this week as the committee begins a series of hearings in 11 cities across the province. Harris wanted to push the bill, wilyly named the Savings and Restructuring Act, through by Christmas. But the omnibus in the legislature in early December convinced the government to back down. The spring started when Liberal MP John Gair, who had accused the government of being reluctant to leave the chamber when ordered to by Speaker A. McLennan. Dozens of oppositionists surrounded Gair throughout the night to prevent the speaker's return from entering him, forcing the house into recess. Harris broke the impasse by agreeing to the hearings, which he hopes will lead to passage of the massive bill by the end of January.

The omnibus legislation is so sweeping, in fact, that it had to be split in half and reviewed by two separate committees. If passed, it will, among other things, allow the government to change union contracts and evict residents from for-profit housing and let municipalities impose new user fees—from collecting trash to finance new roadways to increasing the amount of money people pay to use recreational facilities. Finance Minister Ernie Eves wants this bill to be enacted if the government is to bring Ontario's deficit, which is fore-

cast to reach \$8.2 billion in 1996, under control. Acknowledged Eves: "Unusual measures are needed to deal with the debt problem."

The all-encompassing nature of Bill 26 led dozens of groups—from senior citizens' associations to environmentalists—to criticize it before the committee. Dr. Joe Wernick, president of the Ontario Medical Association, complained that the legislation will allow the province to control virtually every aspect of a doctor's working life, and might even prevent him or her from relocating a practice. The bill



The Ontario legislature (Harris [inset]: the government had to back down)

would also require government arbitrators to take into account taxpayers' ability to finance public-sector wage increases during contract negotiations. Earl McNamara, president of the 50,000-member Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, said that such a move would amount to "political interference" in the bargaining process. Another group that opposes the bill, Publicans Trade, says that rather than dealing fairly with the province's financial situation, the legislation also contains more measures that appear to be designed more to aid the government's business allies. For one thing, said Publicans spokesman Bruce Lowe, it would alert the Ontario Mining Act to free mining companies from their obligations to clean up pollution. Added Lowe: "Bill 26 opens up an opportunity for corruptible mine operators."

The debate has even raised the spectre of the government aping its own critics. According to Ontario Information and Privacy

commissioner Tom Wright, Bill 26 would amend the Protection of Privacy Act to give the government wider access to individual medical records. He added that the legislation could open the door to even more intrusive government snooping. In the future, he said, where electronic toll highways are introduced in the province, traffic use be monitored by computer chips in vehicles. Bill 26, he warned, could let the government use the technology to track individuals. "Low-income citizens," said Wright, "could have their earnings and gains monitored by government computer."

With criticism continuing to grow, both opposition parties say they hope to show the ineffectiveness of the legislation by demonstrating that the government broke the bill into pieces and rode of the hearings. NDP house leader David Coates and anger over Bill 26 has also reached the point where it could erode Harris' continuing popularity with Ontario voters. "Every day, the hearings are showing the

Times to be incompetent," said Coates. Bill 26, however, is still supported by a wide variety of groups. Metropolitan Toronto Board of Trade vice-president Michael Lauber said that while the board is concerned about the possibility of new municipal taxes, bringing the province's finances into line has to be the government's top priority. And John Wright, senior vice-president of the polling firm Angus Reid Group Inc., said most Ontarians will support Harris' determination to attack the deficit. In fact, a survey taken in mid-December and released last week shows that Harris still enjoyed the support of 55 per cent of Ontario residents, down slightly from 60 per cent in November. Harris, and Wright, in his right man in the right place at the right time. "It is a perception that dozens of groups have to shut up as they wade with the so-called Bully Bill."

TOBY FENNEL

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WANT TO HEAR A GOOD STORY?

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EARLY EDITION
with Anne Petrie

8 PM
THE LEAD
with Alison Smith

9:30 PM
FACE OFF

9 PM
PAMELA WALLIN LIVE

NEWS

10 PM
NEWSWORLD MARQUEE

11 PM
THE NATIONAL

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THE NATIONAL SPORTS

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TRADING NEW YEAR'S BLOWS

Police arrested 13 people after what has become an unfortunate holiday tradition in Quebec City: drunken brawling between francophones and visiting anglophones. One person suffered a broken jaw during the New Year's Eve weekend sooties. The altercations reportedly began after visiting anglophones objected to the way police dealt with another English-speaking tourist.

TRAGEDY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Five members of a family died in what police said was a murder-suicide in Surrey B.C., just south of Vancouver. A 40-year-old man armed with a rifle killed himself after shooting his two daughters, his wife and his mother. Only a two-year-old boy survived. Police identified the man as James Huang, and said the family came to the Vancouver area from Taiwan about six months ago.

THE NUMBERS GAME

Statistics Canada reported that, for the third month in a row, the national unemployment rate remained unchanged at 9.4 per cent. But December's rate masked the fact that 54,000 more Canadians were working, compared with November. Statistic Canada said that the unemployment rate itself remained unchanged because even more people were looking for work—with no success.

THE DAY THE MUSIC DIED

Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra president Henry Gougeon claims that the piece of the 119-year-old Ontario orchestra after an unsuccessful struggle with a deal that runs to \$1.5 million. But former Hamilton mayor Jack McGeachy and Stuart Smith, former Ontario Liberal leader, said they would launch a campaign to bring the orchestra back to life.

A DEAL FOR THE ISLAND

Prince Edward Island acquired a new status under Ottawa's constitutional formula for Atlantic Canada. The formula gives a veto to Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, the Prairie provinces and the Atlantic region. While the two regional blocs, a combination of provinces with at least 90 per cent of the area's population is needed to invoke the veto. Due to its small population (just 136,000), Prince Edward Island was the only province unable to invoke the veto with just one other province. But New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have agreed to jointly support Prince Edward Island should it gain the support of either of these provinces.

Canada NOTES

A premier in the making?

After more than a week of deliberation, federal Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin is expected to announce his candidacy for the leadership of Newfoundland's Liberal party—and the premiership of the province—early this week in St. John's. Tobin's candidacy, which comes on the heels of Premier Clyde Wells' Dec. 28 announcement that he is leaving politics, will likely be endorsed by acclamation on Feb. 24 when the province's Liberal caucus chooses a new leader. "He will be looking to use all of his talents to improve the economic conditions of the province," said one person close to Tobin. "He will be looking for opportunity."

Obviously, certainly, is something that Tobin has used to great advantage. Widely acknowledged as one of the federal government's best communicators, the fisheries minister belittled his profile by going head-to-head with Spain over the issue of foreign vessels using old Canada's Atlantic coast during last year's so-called haddock war. In the process, the native of St. John's, Nfld., earned the nickname "Captain Canada." Liberal insiders acknowledge that Tobin's impetuous departure for Newfoundland will leave a gaping hole in



Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's government. But at the age of 43, Tobin could serve two terms as premier and be back in Ottawa in his early 50s, still young enough to attempt to replace one of his other recent setbacks—the prime ministership.

Mission in Asia

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's Team Canada Asia trade mission suffered another setback when Saskatchewan Premier Ray Romanow, Northwest Territories Government leader Donald Mann and Yukon leader John Oakes barred out of the trip. That brought to five the number of provincial and territorial leaders who will not be accompanying the Prime Minister on this week's high-profile visit to India, Pakistan, Malaysia and Indonesia, which is expected to produce at least \$2 billion in new trade agreements. Quebec's outgoing Premier Jacques Parizeau from the trip. He will not participate because of the province's upcoming February budget and his own television address on the state of Albert

is to be delivered later this month. Romanow, Mann and Oakes offered alternative reasons. In the case of Saskatchewan, Romanow fears public demonstrations on the province's 1996 budget. Chrétien, whose Team Canada also includes about 300 Canadian business leaders, has privately expressed concern that the absence of five national politicians would lessen the impact of the trade mission—not to mention the fact that two of the participating premiers, Newfoundland's Clyde Wells and Mike Harcourt of British Columbia, are about to leave politics. But, publicly, federal officials said that the trip, coming in the wake of the successful 1994 trade delegation to China—which brought \$9 billion in new agreements, of which 40 per cent have resulted in final contracts so far—is on track. "We completely understand Premier Romanow's reasons for this," said an spokesman for the Prime Minister. "We'll still visit with the mission. Everyone else is on board."

Felix and Angeli Aduana pose with daughter Adria on her wedding day, a rare openly visible class

As the country opens up to foreigners, Canadians are leading the charge. But despite making free-market reforms, Fidel Castro still wants to save his revolution.

CAN CUBA CHANGE?

Gone is the imposing sculpture of a hammer and sickle that formerly stood on the road from Havana's airport. Today, there is a billboard for Benetton, that easy symbol of Western consumerism that sprang up amid the tangle of Communist regimes of Europe in the early 1980s. Cuba, an island nation stately dependent on Soviet aid, would be the next nation to fall, said the

same pundits who once thought the Berlin Wall would last for decades. But six years on, and despite a loosening of sanctions by the United States, Cuba is emerging from the worst economic crisis in its history with the legendary Fidel Castro will solely at the helm. With hefty investment from Canada and other friendly nations, Cuba has begun an economic upturn, logging 2.5-percent growth in 1993 and projecting five per cent this year. Castro has authorized unpre-

ceded reforms and attended much-needed dollars—while still professing a determination to see his country's socialist soul from the seduction of capitalism.

"We're seeing everything that has happened to these European countries in a totally uncontrolled way. They wanted to go towards capitalism in 45 days, and they quickly regretted leaving socialism."

Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina told *Newsweek*. "There is no strategy that includes order and control." So far, the strategy is working. In just two years, a string of measures that had been taken since Castro's 1959 revolution have become an integral part of everyday life. The country opened up to

outside private investors—with Canada, Mexico and Spain to the lead—and passed a law in September that allows 100-percent foreign ownership in most sectors. Tourism has grown fastest, pulling

The past sponsor of Old Havana grows through the hands of dilapidated buildings left in rubble for lack of funds. Along an crowded balcony, Barbara Belside waits looking for baby one-year-old baby Zula. The baby's arms and legs are covered with scabs and sooty patches, an allergic reaction to airborne pollutants. "She's had it for two months," says her 21-year-old mother. "I knew what medicine she needs, but it is too expensive. It costs \$12." That's more than a month's salary and the plant has a nerve with Cubans. They point to the deterioration of a health-care system that had given them high standards in medicine, and the lowest infant mortality rate in the developing world. Now, shortages coupled with the dollar economy have created a two-tiered system. Medication unavailable in clinics can be found on the street, for a price—though not always. "I'd say I can get four out of five of the prescriptions I need," says the puzzled wife of an orthodox leader, describing her search for black-pile relief. But many Cubans must suffer the new-emerging medical conditions untreated. Two duplicate diapers have been refused, an severity that most people rely on towels or wet paper. The Zula, the scars appeared before her first birthday.

in \$1.6 billion in 1995, up by a third in two years. The largest market in Canada, from which 54 planes a week are expected to bring 200,000 travelers to Cuba this year. There are now more than 300 bustling neighborhood food markets with freely set prices. A "self-employment" law has allowed more than 200,000 Cubans to open licensed small businesses, an equal number are believed to be operating without the paperwork. Last May, the government abandoned its guarantee of cradle-to-grave employment, a measure that is expected to bring 800,000 layoffs—use \$25 at Cuba's workforce—as industry contracts expire in the next few years. That and the challenges caused by the loss of Soviet markets lead statistics such as 17-year-old Guadalupe Maria Duque of Havana's Jose Ramon Polytechnic to fear they will not find work afterward. "There are so many students, and they can't all be placed," says Duque. "I just hope I can live to stay in Havana." Some reports already place joblessness as high as 45 per cent—although officially there is no unemployment.

The biggest economic change of all came in July, 1993, the devaluation of foreign currency. Just two months ago, the state even ordered the black market for U.S. dollars by opening up new kinds of being the street rate of 25 pesos to one U.S. dollar instead of the official 1:1 exchange. The unofficial rate has come down from 300 pesos a year ago, a new sign that conditions are stabilizing.

Having rejected Russia's path to reform as a catastrophe, Castro has looked over to the Chinese model of introducing market mechanisms under a dictatorship. But Cuba, mindful of its status as an island of 11 million people just 300 km from the U.S. coast, believes it must go even slower to avoid all the social upheaval already

EARLY SCARS

following. Despite Fidel Castro's December trip to China and to briefly reformed Vietnam, the catchphrase has become socialism with "Cuban characteristics." That means everything is up for grabs except the very activities of the massive revolution: national sovereignty, universal education and health care. Officially, that which has been has been to nearly 100 per cent, up from 60 per cent before the revolution. The number of teachers went from 36,000 before the revolution to 300,000 by the end of the 1980s, second only to government statistics. Doctors increased from 6,000 to nearly 40,000, the most in the developing world in relation to population. And 90 per cent of high school-age kids were at school, one of the highest proportions anywhere. In the words of Cuban-affairs writer Andrea Oppenheimer, "Cuba had eliminated misery at the cost of imposing a general poverty."



Belside and baby Zula must, as two-tiered health system

unique element—there is a reforming Communist economy with no American competition (page 22). "In a business and a political sense, this is a clean sheet of paper," says Oppenheimer, a friend of Castro's who has become a de facto adviser to Cuban policymakers. "There are no scars to clean up. Nothing has been done, so nothing has been destroyed." The Cuban has studied Canadian regulations on foreign investment, mining, labor and taxation as they enervate to write laws to keep up with the economic capital.

It is a new thrust to a special relationship. Canada has long enjoyed with Havana, but followed an independent policy from the United States, which imposed its debilitating trade embargo in 1961. Canada

COOKING FOR DOLLARS

At Edele's little windows are hung on the high central walls while a brand-new stove plays Latin jazz. A bottle of hot sauce sits on a tray of condiments, as if for guest American guests with a knowing wink. In a brightly lit room, a private home near the Havana waterfront, this public or living-room eatery is a far cry from the standard state-run by the state. It is one of the few forms of "self-employment" permitted since 1993. Edele, a 29-year-old carpenter who loves to cook, opened the restaurant to August, converting his home to a private enterprise and residing in a dormitory to sleep at a monthly rent of \$5.50 an eatery, the place is mostly to Cubans looking for foreign dollars, attracted by an atmosphere with unexpected prices. The one-room eatery is lively every night except Tuesday—when it is closed for the month's "blackout day" to save money. "It costs a lot to maintain a house like this," and there are rules—such as a ban on non-family employees—enforced by inspectors who frequently stop by. Edele is allowed only 12 chairs, though his house could hold 20. His "supposed family" of three does all the serving and washing. He does not have the advantage of the wholesale prices of the state-run hospitality industry, but must buy his food at costly farmers' markets instead. He also pays a \$240 monthly license fee. Still, Edele is pleased with his tiny little free market. "For two years before starting this, I hardly did anything. Now I am working, and it feels good."



ON ASSIGNMENT

NAOMI MORRIS
IN HAVANA

in an old frontal of Cuba's," says Fidel's older brother Raul. Castro "is never shadowed in throughout the 34 years of blockade. When we needed medicine, it came from Canada and Mexico."

The stalled post-U.S. dollar economy has introduced a new agrarianist middle class, visible by their cellular phones and lunches with foreign foods, in a society that had previously been divided into poor and pious; the few rich have made playing the growing gap between the have-dollars and have-nots "What reform?" into the core moral message of a lost country. "I don't have many of anything I can't travel. My life hasn't changed." People jokingly talk of the need for J&J, the Spanish word for J&J as well as an acronym for relatives abroad (*familia en el extranjero*), who send greenbacks. The changes have also unleashed social problems that Cubans had previously seen shielded from. Prostitution, crime, even beggars in the street—a new blight for Communist Cuba—now seem to be gradually accepted as the price of doing business.

With foreigners and their dollars inevitably comes corruption, still at a low level in Cuba compared with other countries in the region. "No police can control a billion dollars worth of tourism a year," says Leonard Mancoske, an instructor at the University of Tennessee Center for Russian Studies, who recently spent a year in Havana. Castro is short on authority for privileged doblers as evidenced by the 1989 execution of the popular General Amleto Ecchevarria and three others on drug-trafficking charges, which sent a warning chill through the country. Even the legitimate success of the new entrepreneurs rattles the Cuban leader, who addressed one of the "new rich" in his recent address to the National Assembly. "We understand that the new money is the expanding income base that is an attempt to win in the runaway incomes of hard currency earners and the underemployed. Everything this country does is for the people, not in favor of a social class of rich people, or ex-players." Understatement it is not a slant in ideology but their necessity that is driving his reforms.

Hounded in by the U.S. trade embargo, Cuba previously relied on the



■ Havana farmers' market: prices are freely set

Seven trading bloc and \$10.8 billion a year in subsidies and aid from Moscow—aid of which began to deteriorate in 1980. The backbone of a centrally planned economy and a succession of poor sugar harvests pitched the nation into what is referred to as the "special period." The economy contracted by nearly 50 percent over four years, shutting down industry and imposing shortages of food, water, fuel, medicine and soap—which is still rationed at just a few bars per person per year. So special were the hardships that home-drawn curtains instead of blinds were seen on the road, since gasoline was scarce and expensive. Special too, were those hours spent sitting in the dark when frequent power outages were necessary to preserve energy after Russian aid ran out.

By the summer of 1994, the "inflation" crisis focused world attention on the discontent of Cubans tired of living in a deprived if relatively laissez-faire dictatorship. A riotist broke out on Havana's Malecon boardwalk, and 33,000 refugees headed for the Florida coast. Two-thirds were intercepted and returned to Guantanamo Bay, a naval base at the eastern tip of the island still held by the U.S. Last week, U.S. immigration authorities said that the list of those last people. A May agreement, seen by the Cubans as a major step towards improving relations with Washington, allows 30,000 Cubans a year to immi-

■ The Michel Robles family: ruble farms of reason



grate legally and obliges the Americans to send 100,000 visas. The regime's critics often cite the major crisis in proof of Communist failure, although Cuban officials note that there were 400,000 visas even at its height. "They talk about the 30,000 youth that left, and they don't talk about the 30 million that stayed on the island," says foreign minister Robles.

Now, the worst appears to be over. True, monthly remittances still provide only enough support for a month, the daily wage of \$1.00 for the average Cuban has fallen to 1,000 from 2,800 in 1989. But that is available—to those who can pay for it. Cars are back on the roads, and so are the first traffic jams since the onset of the "special period." U.S.-dollar air stations with standard business cards have become long lines. While many foreigners—Canadians and others—complain that the reforms are too slow and too imperfect, Foreign Minister Robles insists "the path we have taken has no reverse."

A 40-year-old inmate of Castro's who came from the Communist youth organization, Robles is popular for his forthright style, which includes wearing casual T-shirts. He is at the head of a new group of mostly younger tech recruits whose speech is uncluttered by rhetorical flourish and whose attitudes resemble those of the North American liberal left. Already called "the Cuban Thatcher," Robles, it is said, works in a variety of state agencies from a bridge between the regime's controlled bureaucracy and the world outside—possibly a bridge from Cuba's past to its future. Another Yankee is the nonconformist Octavio Castella, deputy minister of foreign commerce. "There are many dangers," he warns of the reforms. "It gives me no joy to see that a prostitute on the street who takes in perhaps \$20 in tips can live more comfortably than a doctor. This is a temporary phenomenon. The goal is to restore a national society on an equal distribution of wealth."

Carlos Fernández de Castro, who heads the North American office of the Cuban foreign ministry, is also a straight talker. As much as Cubans yearn for normal relations with the United States, he says, "there are foreign policy issues to be resolved independently of anyone." He is called that by his former Soviet boss, already with Spain, the United States and so a great ally with Eastern Europe. And when something collides in the relationship it has been disastrous for us." Hence the desire to consolidate relations with Latin America, Europe, Canada and Asian countries such as China and Vietnam, "not in advance of the day the American sector. Some leverage may come from renewed ties with Russia whose relations with the Clinton administration have lately warmed. Russia recently announced a suspended border deal with the island as well as plans to help build the Jango nuclear power plant in south-east Cuba."

The American trade embargo and the U.S. treatment of Cuba as a pariah on its doorstep are among the few things that have yet to change for Cuba. The vast, largely hostile Cuban exile community in the U.S. is a potent political force. But a moderate Mexican has emerged recently backed by the younger generation. It is led by Elvira Gutiérrez Meneses, a former communist who was later jailed by Castro, exiled in Spain and now



■ Castro: authoring his legacy

positioned politically who knows how to turn his message—and his image. To court U.S. media and corporate interests, he has. Castro would Manhattan by coming designer business suits rather than his customary military garb. At home, he is careful to be seen practicing what he preaches. When he presides over an anti-smoking drive, a cigarette slips out of his hand, and he immediately discards it. He has quit the hotel himself, abandoning his trademark cigar. At the height of the energy crisis, neither he nor his inner circle used their office air-conditioning, say Canadians who do business in Havana. He calls on his family—wife and children—in a intensely private, very little in the way of special provisions. Even his favorite son, 46-year-old Fidelito, was removed from public life after reportedly slandering friends as part of the country's racist power struggle.

A hard act to follow

Fidel. The name itself says loudly. After 37 years of holding off assassins, a superpower on the doorstep and the contagious collapse of Communist regimes, Cuba's leading revolutionary remains true to his cause—and his people remain largely loyal to him. El Comandante, El Maestro, El Jefe (The Chief). They are all nicknames for a charismatic leader who at 68 has become a 20th-century icon. Spontaneous and tiny, he is an enigmatic member of the foreign-affairs elite. Phrases "Fidelito" and "Fidel" are used to describe him. He is the one who is looking at Castro's place, and the Marxist Theodor Kerner has written about the Cuban leader's charisma. To those on

the island, calling him Castro is an implicitly insulting. He is Fidel, and he has kept a grip on power by inspiring an almost cult-like mix of love and fear among Cubans. "He is a self-educator," says Leonard Mancoske, a Toronto professor who has worked in Havana. "Castro's policy is to look people out instead of letting them in."

In an age where that has become a kind of urban myth is the capital, one of "Down with Fidel" turned to "Long Live Fidel" as hundreds of discontented youths rioted at the bootblack one day in August, 1994—the lowest point in the five-year economic free fall that is only now leveling off. The riots were brief and mild, but it marked the worst outbreak since the 1959 revolution. "I don't know why he doesn't just bring in free elections," says Havana English teacher Frank Mulla of Castro's authoritarian rule. "If he did, he'd see more than 80 per cent of the vote anyway."

Despite his fiery speeches, El Presidente is less a demagogue than a so-



■ Robles: a bet



such as Western Mining of Australia. But those tend to be single-sector investors. "There's an opportunity for a well-diversified company to make prescriptive, cross-industry investments in Cuba," says Jim Whelan, a Miami attorney and publisher of the monthly *Cuba Report*. For the moment, it looks as though that opportunity will be seized by Delaney. In his Toronto office, he framed a picture of his two boys and wife, Niki, with Castro, his locked hummer sitting under a box of Monte Cristo and a box of Boleyns. Delaney promises perhaps the most pointed assessment of Cuba of any Canadian business leader. "The whole country had an economic lobotomy," he says. "Ella country's been on holiday for 30 years." Now, he says, "they're throwing an economy into the jaws of the market."

On a micro level, says Delaney, the Shrimsted changes at Moe

Seewerk (left) and partner Michael Cohen stroll Havana's cobble streets

have achieved an 80-percent improvement in productivity. It did not take much, small amounts of money spent on parts, accounting responsibility, cleanup the process—and keeping up Cuban peso wages with incentive payments in U.S. dollars. Says Delaney of the transformation: "Talk about scales falling off eyes."

Still, the Cubans are actually poor. The Canadian mining outfit commonly pay about \$2,700 a month to Guatemalans, the state mining authority, on behalf of each of their Cuban geologists, who in turn receive around \$50 Cuban pesos (\$5). While the pesos can buy a morsel of milk or rice, the converted monthly wage will not buy much of San Francisco's food. The wage source makes Canadian operations difficult, says McDonald. Mines CEO Frank

Seewerk points to the value of "the labor security, the medical and educational benefits, university education, if you want it, retirement at 55." If the guarantees Canadian buyers like Seewerk are successful—and he expects he has a fairly lively rich gold deposit on his hands—and if the Cubans can come up with half of the capital costs to take over mines into production, the state will reap half the profits.

Then, presumably, investment will make its way to the guts of the economy—infrastructure, roads and bridges. According to Delaney, capital will be found. The copperloggers will be sorted from the overtable players. The U.S. embargo will end, and Cuba will only benefit from integration with Western markets. Then he says what he has said many times before: "They'll end up with a regulated market economy and they'll call it Canada." □

PLAYING CHICKEN WITH EGG TRAYS

Egg trays. Thirty million pulp-molded egg trays. That is what the Cubans owed Jim Emery. Although he did business globally from his office in the Toronto suburbs of Markham, Emery didn't have much need for egg trays. In fact, he had more sold in egg trays in his life. But in 1968, when Emery supplied the Cubans with some badly needed add-ons for the pulp-molding machinery his Emery International Development Ltd. had sold them in 1974, he agreed to accept payment in the form of the egg trays the machines were made to produce.

Emery was glib. He knew only half the proposed production would be needed in Canada, so he sought new markets. He opened warehouses in Holland and Spain, he asked. Sometimes he would get a shipment every three months. Then six months would pass. No egg trays. "I was explaining to them [the Cubans] that chickens keep having eggs every day. They [the chickens] don't wait. They [the Cubans] were waiting my markets."



Emery and the goods: faith

Back in Cuba, at a small village near Havana's airport, the egg-tray makers were struggling with fuel shortages, power outages and a dearth of waste paper. Spontaneously, the egg trays got made, and so did the original payment deal involving more than 80 million of them. Emery had received roughly 30 million by the summer of 1980. Then nothing. Emery just fumed. "I thought I had a rna out of 10 chance of getting paid," he says. "Now, I didn't know! Meanwhile, they were using emergency spare parts down to wirepins in his machines. I think they were surprised to find capitalists going all-out to help them."

In June, 1984, the government offered Emery a once controversial surprise: satisfaction of the option debt to U.S. dollars. The Cubans have since regularly paid their twice-yearly payments on the \$729,520 debt. They have two payments to go. John Emery is ecstatic. And he's doing more business in Cuba.

◀ W

Never mind the heat. Austria screen star Klaus Maria Brandauer is dressed in his customary black as he steps a brisk on the cobble-paved paths of Havana's busy Plaza Nacional. He is on tour for the 12th annual Latin American Film Festival. Maltese X's daughter Qashish Shihab shows up on an enchanter's tale on the last day to promote Spike Lee's U.S. epic about her father. Swedish director Pedro Almodóvar's current star, Victoria Abril (*The Nymphs*, *The My Queen's*) flutters along a grand state balcony where Minister of Culture Luis Posada and other members of a Quebec film delegation stare this moment in the sun. The glasses, the rays are, the clasp of different languages, the Oscar-like chic could this be grey, earnest, Communist Cuba?

Like much of the island's culture, the film festival—held every mid-December—shakes the usual outside image of artistic life behind the concrete curtain. No Eastern Bloc regimes seen in sight. "The point is jumping," says Helge Stephenson, former director of the Toronto International Film Festival and a regular visitor to Cuba since 1975. Along with new economic reforms have come art reforms, lively cinema, jazz bars and clubs. City by city many cities successfully marketing themselves. The word of times appears to be over as hundreds of U.S. dollar-paying youths crowd into the Plaza de la Sabia each evening, a virtual altar to the Caribbean propensity to party and protest. Power outages are now less frequent and there is a new energy in the air.

'The joint is jumping'

But Stephenson and other observers say Cuban culture has become stagnant—despite with criticisms of society rarely stifled by the regime. "It's not an explosion of culture. It's an explosion of outfits for the culture," says Stephenson. No crime was ever great enough to dim the lights of Havana's night club scene. "No old days, the regime was a little tolerant, but the Trotskians never stopped and Cubans never stopped going."

State support bolstered Cuban arts from the early days of the 1950 revolution, fostering an impressive stream of virtuoso musicians and a popular film scene and reviving its artists. Havana has long been a hub for Caribbean music and Latin American film, and has stood out for decades. The film festival's heyday came in the mid-1960s, fueled by the work of a forbidden lead as well as a regional film school set up by Canadian author Gabriel García Márquez. Then a close friend of President Fidel Castro. "It was the height of the Cold War," remembers Ricardo Puerto, a Colombian-born Canadian filmmaker who has been going to Havana for 10 years. "Newcomers still believe in it. West Germany broke East Germany, Canada was in the middle."

With the financial crunch of the past five years came a shortage of funds that hurt many in the arts, leaving most of the work to a small influential circle. "The film industry has become leaner and meaner," says Puerto, who heads the Latin American section of Toronto's film festival and set up the city of Havana. "They must have felt more passionately because there are fewer films being made. But they are better." The surprise result has been a crop of superior works such as Tomás Gutiérrez Alea's 1989 Academy Award nominee *Strawberry and Chocolate* and his current release *Guantánamo*, a road movie poking fun at the failures of Cuban life. The two are in the tradition of comic irony that runs through a society whose cultural tradi-

tion is its sense of humor in the face of adversity. Strawberry and Chocolate also reached a breakthrough by exposing to a mass audience Havana's everyday gay scene. Says Puerto: "It was the first time a heterosexual has been portrayed with humanity. It's a sign of the times."

Festival director Albedo Guevara, industrial head of Cuba's 17th Institute for Israeli art, says Strawberry and Chocolate reached the nature of Cuban cultural expression in a place where the eradication of literacy over the past three decades has created "a more enlightened citizenry." Guevara, 78, has long been one of the core of the Cuban arts elite, a friend of Castro's since university days who introduced the

Almodóvar's *Salsa Fatales* to no Eastern Bloc repression



Cuban leader to the writings of Marx. From the start, he says, Cuban never adapted the Soviet model of socialist realism, having learned from the dismal experience of artists in the Eastern Bloc.

"They were forced to deal forces of expressions that were resisted," he says. "This was not the case for us. Our greatest experience is to sense the truth, even if we don't like it." Still, Guevara believes the role of artists is to "insert themselves into the revolution," using the conflict interest in the socialist struggle as the conflict driving force.

Despite hard times, Cuba's spirited arts scene is thriving

For those who find themselves outside the consensus of Havana's arts establishment, expression in Cuba is hardly so simple. There is no free press, no private publishing or broadcasting. Journalists who try to operate independently have been imprisoned. Those writers who do remain in Cuba succeed by managing the authorities of how best to say what they want to say. Direct censorship has rarely been necessary, as Guevara quite candidly explains: "There's nothing worse than state censors. Things must be approved. They are not free financed or not."

Now, as film, music and other arts open to more private investment, the free market may pay its own commercially driven stamp on expression. But Guevara, much like Canadians, will continue to work ways of creating cultural industry. "We suffer deprivation under the influence of American culture that floods us through the media—or we find ourselves," says Guevara. For those who have the money that search is thriving.

N.M. in Havana

Back to Bosnia

Canada joins a U.S.-led NATO force

For days, bitter snow and deepening frost in northern Bosnia stifled efforts by U.S. army engineers to build a plankton bridge across the swollen Sava River. But finally last week a break in the weather allowed the "water rats" to complete their job. As the engineers completed a surprisingly high five, thousands of American troops backed by 30,000 Albanian tanks, moved from Croatia into Bosnia in what will become one of the largest military operations since the Second World War. By the middle of February, nearly 60,000 troops from more than 30 countries, including 1,000 from Canada, will be in place to reform the fragile Bosnian peace agreement hammered out in Dayton, Ohio, in November. As the Americans celebrate the first contingent of nearly 100 Canadian troops moved into their command post in the north-west Bosnian town of Cernik.

After a year lasting more than three years, making the Dayton accord may not only be disappointing—it may simply be impossible. The pact showed some signs of breakdown down around the capital, Sarajevo, last week as Serbian rebels countered, then refused, 12 Muslim civilians, and an Italian peacekeeper was wounded by snipers. Two Muslim policemen were also severely injured by shots fired by Croatian fighters in the deserted town of Mostar. Still, U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry concluded in a letter and crossed their newly established bridge. "The peace implementation is here," said Perry. "There is a light prospect for peace."

The NATO force, led by U.S. Gen. George Joulfaian, had originally planned to have 80,000 troops fully deployed in Bosnia by next week. About 30,000 British and French troops are already in place, but the American contingent will not be up to its full strength of 20,000 until the end of the month. In addition to enforcing the new boundaries separating Bosnian Muslims, Croats and Serbs, NATO has also been assigned the dangerous task of observing the warring sides.

The Canadian job will be to stabilize the northwest corner of Bosnia near Bihac, where they will help organize and direct a 1,000-member international force. Among

their tasks will be overseeing the registration of many of the 23,000 Muslims who fled the area when it was under siege by Bosnian Serbs. Under the leadership of Brig. Gen. Bruce Jeffries, commander of the Second Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group based in CFB Petawawa, near Ottawa, the Canadians have been scrambling to get under way since Dec. 1, when Defense Minister David Collier announced Canada's participation in the NATO force. The first contingent of 82



U.S. troops stream into Bosnia; troops peace accord

have a chance to get on with their lives. With electronic largely retired, the city's streets are overrun by Serbian and Bosnian performers, including Bono, lead singer of the Irish rock band U2, tuned up for a private party on New Year's Eve. "The will of the people struck me," said Bono. "Laughter is evidence of freedom."

But many of Sarajevo's Serbs, living the prospect of living in a Muslim-controlled area under the new leaders, were preparing to leave, some going so far as to dig up deceased relatives' remains to take with them. The capital suffered years of bombardment and shelling from Serbian positions in the hills, and Serbs clearly expect retaliation. "We would be slaughtered if we stayed," said Miroslav Marjanovic, 45, as he got ready to leave Sarajevo. In 20 years, when people here forget, maybe then we will be able to live here again.

If the peace process does break, analysts say it may be because of events just beyond



Bosnia's borders. Serbian militia occupying the north-east corner of Eastern Slavonia have refused to return the area to Croatia. President Bill Clinton, facing the political fallout of a large number of Americans killed, has left the dangerous task of securing the Slavonian Serbs to a highly armed United Nations peacekeeping force posted just south of Rijeka and Belgrade troops. "Local Serb militia elements are very strong there," says James Schwenk, a Defense special unit at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington. "The UN hasn't had much luck so far there." And lack in supplying if they hope to establish a lasting peace is a shortened lead.

TOM FENNEL with correspondent reports

Saudi Arabia

Arroyal power play

For years, his health has been so fragile and his weight so meager that a mini-elevator had to be installed in his palace to allow him to negotiate a single step in a cold steel floor. Plagued by diabetes, gall bladder and knee problems, he walked only with the aid of crutches. And over once a fortune-teller's prediction that he would die in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's notoriously capital-free King Fahd has spent 100 hours in the capital, performing what his apologetic outside world knows as Jeddah or Spain's Costa del Sol, where he often showed less interest in the affairs of state than in his latest passion, Nakhla, still, in the secretive desert king from the father's perspective of the globe's known oil reserves, the 73-year-old monarch's body was never officially assessed—until last week.

On New Year's Day, the royal House of Saud surprised the world with the announcement that Fahd had transferred authority to his half brother, Crown Prince Abdullah, 72, while he embarked on "rest and recuperation." Despite its determined historicism, the royal edict confirmed rumors that had been rampant through diplomatic circles ever since Fahd was rushed to a Riyadh hospital on Nov. 20 for what the palace termed a checkup. According to a U.S. medical team flown to his bedside, the king had, in fact, suffered a debilitating stroke. And privately, most Western diplomats now predict that he is unlikely to resume governing. But that presumed transfer of power sent shockers at once, taking through Washington and other capitals at a time when mounting dissent and terrorist bombings have raised questions about the long-term health of the kingdom as well. As one Western diplomat worried last week, "If the royal family doesn't control the social changes that are going on, what's going to happen is what we predicted in the 1970s."

The specter of an Islamic-style revolution has haunted Saudi Arabia ever since the 1948 Gulf War brought more than 500,000 foreign troops to the desert kingdom, sparking demands for further Islamization from the middle class—and a backlash from Islamic fundamentalists. But that very threat may have strengthened Abdullah's

hand in the 1992 royal succession process. A conservative, he is known as one of the most religious and least corrupt of the senior princes, whose liberal lifestyles and demands for freedom on domestic deals have made them the targets of criticism.

Unlike Fahd and his predecessors, Abdullah is not one of the "Saudis Seven"—the powerful sons born to Hassan, Sultan, brother-in-law of King Abdul Aziz, who founded the kingdom in 1932. The offspring of siblings of Abdul Aziz, 32 wives, the crown prince remains strong ties to the Bedouin tribes who fill the 15,000,000-Saudi national guard under his command.

The reins of government in the secretive oil-rich kingdom pass to a religious crown prince little known outside his country

and. And while Fahd was a reputation as the "playboy prince," coining Europe's nightclubs, the shy, shy, may at home Abdullah, who suffers from a pronounced stutter, resists the crown to hand with his prized horses. In fact, in the late 1970s, when the Saudi government presided a race Arabia trained officials to then-flying jockeys, the contrast between the six-second jockey clear "The look on Fahd's face showed he was just so bored," he called one participant, "but Abdullah was almost as excited as the king, who was bouncing up and down."

Over years, those traditional tastes left Abdullah an embarrassment in his half brother. But at a time when Fahd's 13 years of

modernization and unshakable pro-Americanism in its early days under attack, those very qualities have made the crown prince new clock. Still, as an Arab nationalist whose tribal ties have made him the Saudi point man with Syria, Abdullah is regarded warily in Washington. During the Gulf War, he opposed allowing U.S. forces on Saudi soil. "Abdullah was more inclined to negotiate with Saddam Hussein," says William Quevedo, a Middle Eastern expert at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. "But when Fahd asserted himself, Abdullah didn't try to fight it."

More scholars predict that any changes in Saudi foreign policy will be confined more to style than substance. And given the kingdom's dependence on Washington for its defense, Abdullah has no doubt relies on a long-standing training contract with the Virginia-based Vandeel Corp. But on Nov. 13, a terrorist bombing that ripped the head off the national guard's Riyadh headquarters and left five Americans dead, underlined the mounting risks of that alliance. Claiming responsibility for the attack, a group called the Islamic Movement for Change had earlier warned in letters to the U.S. Embassy that unless an estimated \$500-million military personnel left the country, it would "erect these fences from the island of Islam."

Last week, it became clear that Abdullah may prove tougher than Fahd against these escalating threats to the throne. Bowing to stepped-up pressure from his office, the British government and openly announced deportation proceedings against Mohammed Mousa, a former Saudi physics professor who has been leading one opposition faction by his electronic mail from his study in London since April 1994, but threatened that Saudi Arabia will not only challenge the crown prince but also as undertakes the delicate horse race act that has allowed Saudi rulers to straddle both East and West, should be in the Kingdom's rival, Defense Minister Prince Sultan, 68, and his brother-in-law brother and a Washington favorite, is with him in his power. And last week, Cornell University professor Shihab al-Tajiri, a three-member corps, urging the budget-obsessed U.S. Congress to reconsider its \$50-billion annual aid to the kingdom. "The Persian Gulf. There's a liability to be considered of the American presence here," Tajiri said. "Abdullah's 'gang' before there is in Saudi Arabia."

MARK MC DONALD



Abdullah: shy follower

Back to work —for now

The Republicans give Clinton
three weeks to settle the budget

The new year dawned in Washington with the government set for a cash flow crisis. That day, the 1995-1996 U.S. federal fiscal year ended on fourth month. But such of the government will lack spending authority because of dead lock in a struggle over the budget between Democratic President Bill Clinton and the Republican Congress. New Year's Day also marked the beginning of the third straight week of a shutdown that, since Dec. 16, had "hobbled" almost two in five of the country's roughly 750,000 federal employees and postponed all paydays indefinitely. Further

more, said Clinton is a New Year's message: "It's all out of services for millions of American who depend on them." He cited funding shortages for everything from Meals on Wheels to trace waste cleanup and student loans. Then, calling on Congress to renew anti-spending authority while negotiations proceed, he urged Republicans "let's make a deal to re-open the government and shut now." The Senate complied promptly on Jan. 2, passing a temporary spending bill at the behest of Majority Leader Bob Dole, the leading Republican candidate to challenge Clinton in the November presidential election. "Enough is enough," declared Dole, talking with Ro-

Democrat senators the state department: a propaganda campaign

publicans in the House of Representatives led by Speaker Newt Gingrich. Hardline in the House resisted for two days, insisting that government should be restored only after bargaining with Clinton produced a seven-year budgeting plan to erase the deficit in 2002. But, battered by a barrage of Democrat propaganda that they were selling America's reputation abroad and at home, the House Republicans yielded—grudgingly and partially. "We had to find a way to pay the federal employees," said Gingrich.

New legislation, approved reluctantly by Clinton, authorized a return to work by laid-off employees and a full federal payroll for three weeks. But it applied no money for many special services, and House Democrat Leader Richard Gephardt complained that retaining people to work without operating funds made no sense. The bill, he said, "ought to prevent people with crossed paychecks as they'll have something to do to the office."

But the Republicans withheld full funding—just the new fiscal year on Jan. 26—as a deliberate effort to raise leverage with Clinton in negotiations for their service-sector budget-banking plan. Unless there is agreement on that scheme, the government could face another cash crisis before the month is out. But Clinton has resisted key parts of that plan, which proposes spending cuts on social programs, reduces tax credits for low-income families and cuts capital gains taxes at the same time. The Gingrich Republicans, meanwhile, cling fiercely to that program, a centerpiece of their Contract with America platform.

The Republican budget-banking drive is based on a philosophy that the power of the federal government should be diminished after 21-day shutdowns in November; the record 21-day shutdown that ended last week and the possibility of further such crises, the electricity may begin to produce that vision. As Clinton said in his New Year's message: "If ever we needed a reminder that our government is not our enemy, this is it."

CARL HOLLAND in Washington



ENEMY OF ISRAEL KILLED

The Hamas Islamic movement's master bomb maker, Yehya Ayyash, known as "the Engineer," died when a hooded-trapped cellular phone exploded. Blaming Israel's secret police for the death of the teen accused of masterminding a lethal suicide bombing campaign in Israel, Hamas vowed revenge. Almost 30 people have died in a wave of bombings, many of them on buses, since the 1993 Israeli-PLO peace accord.

RUSSIAN MINISTER RESIGNS

In a key victory for Communist and nationalist hardliners, Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, a leading advocate of strong ties with the West and Boris Yeltsin's longest-serving minister, resigned as he could take the parliamentary seat that he won in the Dec. 17 elections. Russian law does not allow government officials to serve simultaneously in parliament.

CHINESE LEADER SENTENCED

A Chinese cult leader who reportedly swindled money and possessions from hundreds of his followers was sentenced to death for raping 19 women disciples, according to Chinese press reports. Hu Guohua, 31, was convicted in a trial in east China's Anhui province, founded the anti-communist Anointed King cult in 1993.

AID WORKER CHARGED

The wife of Canadian aid worker Anwar Khatib, who has been under arrest in Pakistan since shortly after the Nov. 13 suicide bombing of the Canadian embassy in Islamabad that killed 16 people and injured 60, said that her husband now faces unspecified charges in connection with the bombing. Khatib, 43, regional director of the Ottawa-based relief agency Human Concern International, is a Canadian nationalist who was born in Egypt and maintains dual citizenship. Three militant Islamic groups in Egypt have claimed responsibility for the bombing.

NUCLEAR TESTS TO END

French President Jacques Chirac said a series of nuclear weapons tests that his country has been conducting in the South Pacific will end next month. France has provoked international outrage with its five blasts so far. Chirac said, France will sign a treaty (joining the South Pacific Free zone of nuclear weapons, and wants a global ban on any further nuclear tests. "I want particularly to thank those countries which have understood the meaning of our action," he said in a diplomatic reception.

World NOTES



CELEBRATING A BEGINNING: Palestine Liberation

Organizational leader Yasser Arafat holds his staff high and dances during an election rally in the Gaza Strip. About 700 candidates representing a dozen parties are running in the first-ever Palestinian elections, to be held on Jan. 20. International groups have criticized some measures taken by the Palestinian Authority operating in Gaza and the West Bank, including the detention of some critics of Arafat.

Stepping down

Japanese Prime Minister Toru Hashimoto and his entire cabinet resigned, saying they would step in place to a caretaker government until a new one can be formed, possibly this week. A special parliamentary session, which ministers said could take place as early as Thursday, was to elect a new prime minister, widely expected to be Trade Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, 68, a hardliner in negotiations with the United States.

Hashimoto, 71, became Japan's first socialist prime minister in June, 1994, following a period of intense upheaval in Japanese politics. The previous year, political newcomer Morihiro Hosokawa had become prime minister at the head of Japan's first coalition government. Replaced by a money scandal, he was replaced by Tsutomu Hata last April. But that government lasted just nine months before Hata was forced to resign in the face of a threatened no-confidence vote. Hashimoto then took over as head of an odd-couple alliance that paired his liberal Socialists with their traditional

al rivals, the conservative Liberal Democrats. Hashimoto, best known as the "Man for the strong stand against American demands in auto talks," heads the Liberal Democrats, which dominated Japanese politics until Hosokawa took office in 1993. He now says little to be a change was needed. But Clinton maintains a scheduled visit in April, which Hashimoto said would take place as a key sign of respectability in Geneva last June, when the United States backed down from its insistence that Japan guarantee American cars and car parts a share of Japan's market.

A warmer year

Scientists at Britain and the United States reported that the Earth's temperature in 1995 was the warmest since global records began in the mid-1850s—farther evidence of a warming trend that began in the mid-1970s. The previous warmest year was 1990. The British Meteorological Office said global surface temperatures have recovered from the cooling caused by the 1961 eruption of the Mount Pinatubo volcano in the Philippines.

Want to know about chemical company emissions?

Reducing
Emissions

This report by members companies of the Canadian Chemical Producers' Association (CCPA) provides information on the emissions and live production practices for 275 chemical substances and raw materials in air, land and water. It also includes a report on various water management.

The report is part of an ongoing commitment under Responsible Care to create a dialogue with Canadians so that emissions reduction efforts reflect the public environmental priorities. Emissions and water reduction is an important part of CCPA member companies' commitment to manage chemicals safely and responsibly.

The "Reducing Emissions" report is available by writing to CCPA or by calling our toll-free number (800-363-6666) (5:00pm EST).

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STOCKING UP ON A BUDGET

Cut-rate brokers are making it easier and cheaper than ever to buy shares

After a long day at the office, Winston Chen likes nothing better than to go home and boot up his personal computer. But rather than simply surfing the Internet or playing games, he plays the stock market. A few years ago, he became fed up with full-service stockbrokers, who charged big fees and were always trying to talk him into buying particular shares. Now, using special software supplied by a discount broker, Chen places his buy and sell orders leisurely from his recreation room in suburban Toronto. "I like making my own decisions," says Chen, 42, a manager at a telecommunications company. An avid reader of the financial press, he also manages discount-brokerage accounts for his wife and three children, aged 12 to 15. "I buy mostly blue-chip stocks and I don't speculate," Chen says.

He is one of a growing number of Canadians who are becoming do-it-yourself investors through discount brokers. Unlike traditional brokers, discounters do not normally dispense advice or what stocks to buy or sell. Instead, they merely execute orders for investors at a margin from stocks and bonds in more sophisticated financial products such as options. Most customers still place their orders by telephone, but some discounters, including Chen's, allow investors to manage their accounts by computer. Either way, consumers can receive no-frills service for as little as a fifth of the rates charged by traditional brokers. "We are moving more and more to a do-it-yourself type culture," says John Ser, president of Green Lane Investor Services Inc., the country's largest discount broker. "People are becoming more value-oriented."

Discount houses have been part of the American stock-trading landscape for 20 years, but the industry only took root in Canada in the mid-1980s, following the deregulation of brokerage commissions in Ontario and Quebec. Since then, the business has grown rapidly to the benefit of many established brokers. Tony Hepburn, president of Ontario-based Ikonis Ltd., a Vancouver-based full-service brokerage, says his firm is trying to lead the way through the cut-throat competition by expanding the range of services to investors. For example, the firm runs a children's educational program that makes it



Armanan also saved about \$12,000 in 1993 alone

See if Green Lane offers in Toronto: do-it-yourself culture

possible for parents to buy a small number of shares—less than the typical lot of 100—in a company such as Walt Disney Co. for a minimal commission of \$10 or \$15. "We are trying to build the future by that kind of activity," Hepburn says.

For Green Lane, however, the shift in investment culture has paid off handsomely. A subsidiary of the Toronto-Dominion Bank, Green Lane now claims between 60 and 70 per cent of the discount market, with about \$14 billion in customer assets after swallowing competitor Marathon Brokerage. Discount Investment Services two years ago. Not in size is

Rey's Ben's Action Direct, which last week announced that its clients will soon be able to make stock trades by personal computer—a service Green Lane introduced in 1993. All of the other chartered banks have their own discount brokerage subsidiaries. Interconnected Hongkong Bank of Canada jumped into the fray last summer, while Canada Trust rolled out EasyLine Brokerage in late October.

The growth of the discount brokerage industry is partly a response to the demographic bulge of baby boomers, the oldest of whom are about to hit 50. Some boomers accumulate assets steadily through inheritances, while others have been sowing away

money for years in registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs). Unlike their parents, however, baby boomers have grown up with discounters and are therefore more likely to turn to a cut-rate broker when they want to buy stock. They also have access to vast amounts of investment information through financial newspapers and magazines, newsletters, business software and on-line databases—services that have helped to fuel the recent boom in North American stock markets.

Value-conscious investors are also receiving assistance from groups such as The Canadian Shareowners Association, a Windsor, Ont.-based nonprofit organization whose membership has grown to nearly 10,000 since its inaugural startup a month before the October, 1987, stock market crash. "We teach investors how to identify quality stocks when they are on sale," says association founder John Bask, a professor of finance at the University of Windsor.

By some estimates, the discounters now handle nearly 50 per cent of Canadian retail stock trades, compared with at least 30 per cent in the United States. "There is the potential for the Canadian share to grow to 30 to 35 per cent over the next 10 years if we follow the U.S. trend," says Peter Chiu, president of Hongkong Bank Discount Trading. The bank's entry into the field was prompted in

COMPARING COMMISSIONS

Although charges vary, small investors often save between 50 per cent and 85 per cent by buying and selling shares through a discount broker

Discount broker:
Full-service broker:

	Fee to buy 100 shares of \$20 each	Fee to buy 1,000 shares at \$20 each
Discount broker	\$30 to \$43	\$75 to \$85
Full-service broker	\$75 to \$85	\$300 to \$450

the lowest-cost dealers for Canadian stock trades, charging a \$25 base rate plus a per-share charge depending on the stock price. At the higher end, Green Lane charges a \$50 base fee plus a per-share charge, or a \$43 minimum for Canadian stock trades under \$2,000. Customers can receive a further 10-per-cent discount by using a computer or telephone investor trading system instead of a live operator. Green Lane says these higher fees are justified because it offers investment seminars, independent research reports for a fee and mutual-fund specialists to help customers choose a fund. By comparison, most full-service brokers charge a percentage of the value of a stock transaction—two per cent is common. The mar-

ket by that expectation of growth. In addition, market evaluations showed that many of its Asian investor clients would be attracted to a discount-brokerage operation. "A lot of this group tends to be business owners and entrepreneurs who live with risk as a way of life," says Bascio. "Investing in the markets is not seen as something to be afraid of."

Green Lane's Ser says that in the early days, customers of discount brokerage were typically males aged 50 and older. Now about 30 to 25 per cent of his firm's clients are women, with an average age in the mid-40s. Sheryl Armanan, 48, of Winnipeg converted to a discount broker two years ago after a bad experience with a full-service broker, who convinced her and her husband to buy several high-risk stocks for their self-directed RRSPs. "My broker would sometimes phase up just before the market would close and say, 'I've got this great stock. Do you want it, yes or no?'" says Armanan. "When I asked questions, he was always in too much of a rush." Finally, Armanan—who owns an insurance and real estate company in partnership with her husband—dumped that broker. She now makes her own investment decisions after scanning publications such as *The Investment Reporter*, a weekly Canadian stock market newsletter. "I do my own research," says Armanan. "I also phone companies and I talk to the chief financial officers and vice-presidents of finance." By her own reckoning, she saved about \$15,000 in commissions on trades in 1995 by taking the discount route.

In their advertisements, discounters often claim they can save investors as much as 85 per cent compared with full-commission brokerage fees. But, however, depend on the transaction. "Discount brokerage isn't just as cheap as any other—it's a whole series of different approaches," says Andrew Scjano of Carmo, president of Scotia Discount Brokerage. Both InvestAlert and Scotia Discount Brokerage market

most are a publicity about \$90, although charges for big trades—roughly \$30,000 or more—are negotiable.

While discount brokers once attracted more sophisticated investors who simply wanted low-cost stock trades, they have now become market mainstays in offering conservative products such as guaranteed investment certificates and mutual funds. In fact, some discounters offer more than 400 mutual funds, including those from competing brokerage companies. "The biggest myth about discount brokers is that you have to be a big stock player, which is really not the case," says Mike Dutton, president of Royal Bank's Action Direct. "For instance, you can choose from over 17 different classes of GICs from us so you can choose the best rate in GICs. And you can deal with us and still buy US, Canadian, foreign, American, Treasury and GIC funds—all through one account."

But Patrick McKenough, editor of *The Successful Investor* newsletter and author of *Following the Bull: How You Can Profit from the Coming Stock Market Slide*, warns that discounters are not for everyone, citing the sliver of cheaper commissions. "I know a lot of investors who have had some unfortunate experiences with full-service brokers and then went to discounters. They tried to do it on their own and they wound up with even worse results on their portfolio," says McKenough. "It's something people forget in the rush."

Facing low-cost competition, full-service brokers are taking steps to entice investors back to their fold. Many larger firms have expanded their training programs for broker-staff, hoping to convince consumers that the higher fees are worth it. They are also trying to increase the credibility of their sales forces by having people with other professional qualifications—such as lawyers and accountants—an investment adviser. And some are offering new services, such as "retirement" funds, for which investors pay a fixed annual portfolio management fee instead of commissions based on each transaction. Depending on the deal, the maximum investment required can range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. "A wrap as an investment service is the perception that brokers are just trying to charge accounts and miss commissions with every trade they do," says David Dineoff, editor of *The Investor's Journal*.

Smart investors can bridge their bets by dealing with both types of firms. Jim Gilze, 36, a Toronto accounting teacher, has been an active investor since his teenage years. He still prefers to use a full-service broker for his larger self-directed stock portfolio. More than two years ago, however, he began using two different discount brokers to buy and sell shares in a small emerging company for his non-registered account. "My risk tolerance is high," says Gilze. Besides, the lower fees make playing the market that much more enjoyable.

SHURLEY WOX

Mission impossible

It's time to break off the loose ends, dig out the matching ties and jump aboard the bus that's right. Team Canada has just embarked on another road trip. This time, out, Coach Chrétien is taking a roster of provincial premiers and 250 assorted business leaders on an all-star tour of emerging export markets: The India, Pakistan, Indonesia and Malaysia.



THE BOTTOM LINE

BY DEIRDRE McNULTY

There's no question that January is an excellent time to lead to warmer climes for 11 days—and to rack up some serious frequent-flyer points in the bargain. Neither is there any debate about the dollar photo opportunities that abound as each taxpayer the sort of thing to restore the fraying public image of a prime minister. Maybe Chrétien can even ride another bicycle for the cameras, as he did on the trade mission to China in 1994.

But there is considerable question about the real business value of these exotic jaunts. Between January and October of 1995, Canada exported a relatively meagre \$2.4 billion in goods to the four countries on the itinerary. That compares with exports of \$1.4 billion to those same places in the same period. And it hardly qualifies them for major market status.

Of course, the objective of the whole exercise is to change that, to bring Canada's value-added exports to the attention of these emerging markets. The problem is that these intensive group efforts are inevitably an unfocused hedgehog. And the various agencies, however harmonized, dilute the quality of the pitch. Furthermore, with so many top politicians on board, politicians and the right moves shouldn't make a champion to succeed. They ought to be able to seal international contracts on their own merits—without using the credibility of the Prime Minister as a prop. And surely, as we must grant them, there's Chrétien is cooked with at least these days.

Still, the Prime Minister is only human. And riding a bike in Bombay is probably a much more tempting prospect than heading straight back to the prolixity of Parliament in the bleak northwest.

In part, this is a natural function of business culture clash: the Chinese—and other Asian societies—have a tradition of extended courtship in business. They place great emphasis on guests, or *guanxi*, and building long-term relationships with their business partners. As hosts to a delegation as prestigious as the one sent by Canada, the Chinese would have considered it rude not to sign the long contracts proffered by the anxious Canadians. But that doesn't mean these documents are bankable—at least not as the result of one whirlwind group tour of the Middle Kingdom.

There's also the question of human rights in the cases of China, Chile and other nations where Team Canada has trotted out its dogs and ponies. For many Canadians, the notion of politically incorrect commerce is utterly repugnant. They argue that trade should be withheld as a punishment for countries that don't conform to certain standards of behavior. The Liberal government, however, has usually refused to let such concerns stand in the way of a good deal.

But all of these concerns aside, there's a broader, underlying dilemma at work. The Canadian money-trade is supposed to be deregulating, privatizing, promoting tough love. It's no longer charged with wiping noses and holding the sticky fingers of domestic business interests. There are now international trade agreements and bodies, like the World Trade Organization, to ensure that the game of global business is played by the rules.

As a result of that infrastructure, those conversations with the right products and the right moves shouldn't make a champion to succeed. They ought to be able to seal international contracts on their own merits—without using the credibility of the Prime Minister as a prop. And surely, as we must grant them, there's Chrétien is cooked with at least these days.

Still, the Prime Minister is only human. And riding a bike in Bombay is probably a much more tempting prospect than heading straight back to the prolixity of Parliament in the bleak northwest.

An advertising supplement to the January 15, 1996 issue of Maclean's magazine

The RRSP Planner

TOP TIPS FROM TOP ADVISERS



WHAT IS THE KEY TO A FINANCIALLY SECURE RETIREMENT?

The Canada Pension Plan? Three-quarters of Canadians say they do not expect it to be there when they need it. The company pension plan? Even if you are lucky enough to have one and thank you will hang on to your job long enough to benefit, three days the company may expect you to make the decisions about what to do with those savings.

In retirement savings, as in so many other areas these days, we need to rely on ourselves. And for the individual, an RRSP is still the most effective way to save for retirement. But what are the rules, and how can we make decisions in an increasingly confusing marketplace that offers everything from convertible GICs to emerging market mutual funds?

That's why we have put together this year's Maclean's RRSP Planner. In this issue, we will help you review the basics in

Developing Your Strategy. We'll present several different approaches to investing your RRSP savings. Picking the Products will survey the types of investment vehicles available and offer suggestions on how to evaluate them. Along the way, we will survey the experts in the business to find out what they do with their RRSPs, who they think the top mutual funds managers are, and what strategies they suggest in an uncertain world.

STAR: balancing risk and reward simply makes sense for my RRSP.



Karl Staebner,
Company Owner

**STAR.
More peace of mind
for your RRSP.**

"For my RRSP, in past years I've invested in a mutual fund ... which is a good idea. But, according to my financial advisor, investing in a diversified portfolio of mutual funds selected to meet my needs is an even better idea. So I've chosen STAR from Mackenzie. The concept behind STAR won a Nobel Prize. But I like STAR because the concept of balancing risk and reward simply makes sense for my RRSP investments ... now and over the long term."



STAR

Simple. Safe. Superior.

Mackenzie
Building Financial Independence

Invest wisely: Important information about the STAR asset allocation program is contained in the simplified prospectus for Mackenzie-managed mutual funds. Discuss a copy from a financial advisor and read it carefully before investing. Unit values and investment returns of each fund within your STAR portfolio are not guaranteed and will fluctuate, as will the overall market value of your STAR portfolio, reflecting changes in the value of the underlying funds.

in Box 52 of your T4 slip.)

If you lose your Notice of Assessment, you can phone the Tax Information Phone Service (TIPS), listed in the Government of Canada section of the Blue Pages under Revenue Canada. By logging in your social insurance number and birthdate, and your total reported income (line 150 of your 1994 tax return), you can find out your contribution limit.

How much will I save in taxes?
Every dollar you put into your RRSP reduces your taxable income by roughly the same amount. So to figure out how much you are saving, multiply the amount you put in your RRSP by the rate you are being taxed at. For example, if you put \$2,500 into your RRSP, your taxable income will be reduced by \$2,500. If your income is taxed at 40 per cent that

means you've saved 40 per cent of \$2,500, or about \$1,000.

When should I contribute?

If you want it to count in your 1995 tax return, you have to contribute to your RRSP by February 29, 1996.

Although 80 per cent of RRSP owners wait all the last minute, that is not the best strategy. Not only is it difficult to come up with this money all at once, you will also get a greater financial benefit if you contribute earlier. Ideally, you should make your total contribution as soon as possible, so you get tax-free interest on your retirement money and the return it makes throughout the year. And that can make a big difference when you get to retirement. For example, if you put \$5,000 into your RRSP on January 1st of every year for 30 years and it makes 8 per cent interest, you will end up with \$57,279 more than if you waited for the deadline.

Of course, it may be just as hard to come up with that contribution at the beginning of the year. So another good choice is to contribute every month. Virtually all financial institutions and investment companies now offer automatic withdrawals that will take money from your account every month for your RRSP. Two out of five RRSP holders are using this service, according to a Bank of Nova Scotia study. "It's a painless way of saving and you don't have to worry about getting your money together at the last minute," says Jeff Campbell, general manager of retirement services at the CIBC. And in some cases you can arrange for that money to go into a

particular investment, such as a mutual fund owned by the bank. If you are in an automatic deduction plan you can also arrange with Revenue Canada to lessen your tax bite now, rather than waiting for a refund later. Some financial institutions, including the CIBC, will provide the necessary forms and help you fill them out.

Regular contributions will also help your return on investment. You will not get as much benefit as if you contributed the entire lump at the beginning of the year. But you will still get a greater tax-free return than if you waited till the last minute. You will also benefit from what is called dollar cost averaging. By contributing monthly, you flatten out any increase or decrease in interest rates or mutual fund values, rather than being stuck with whatever is available at the time. So it helps you reduce your risk because you are spreading your investment purchases out over time.

What if I don't have any money to contribute?

Other investments could be moved into your RRSP — stocks or Canada Savings Bonds, for example. To do this, however, you will need to have a self-directed RRSP plan that allows you to have a number of different kinds of investments.

Another option is to borrow money. The taxes you save, plus the tax-free interest you will make, will usually more than make up for

PAUL BOEQA

President, Canadian Wealth Management

Chairman of the Canadian Association of Financial Planners

"I usually make my contribution at the deadline — which breaks all makes. I guess people will be pleased to know someone's normal in the financial services business."

"I put my RRSP contributions in a variety of mutual funds, depending on current markets. Right now we're heading into what appears to be a strong

Canadian equity market. I would also allocate some to more sector-specific funds. I usually try to invest to the maximum 20 per cent in foreign investments. And I have some bond funds."

"I need to have fixed income investments but I don't now, mainly because of the low interest rate situation. If interest rates get up to eight or nine per cent, I would certainly have a portion in GICs."

"Investing should be seen in the context of your personal values. My RRSP is one of my investments, but I've also

made others that have equal or greater importance — my business, my children's education, my health and spiritual development. As a result, I haven't always been able to make my full RRSP contribution — although I hope to be able to use up my carry-forward someday. People do need to save for retirement, but they shouldn't feel guilty if they have to reduce their contributions from time to time."

the interest you pay on the loan. If you know you will be getting a refund on your income tax in a few months, use that to pay off the loan. Many banks and trust companies offer good rates on RRSP loans and no-payment options as long as four months — by which time your tax refund should have arrived. However, you should only borrow if you know you can pay the loan back on time.

If none of these options work for you, remember that you have got up to seven years to make up the amount you missed. You can make the contribution in a later year and deduct the contribution on that year's tax return. So if you have missed in earlier years, try to make it up later.

Here is an interesting, related point: you do not have to use the tax deduction in the year you make



JOANNE THOMAS YACCATO

President and founder of Women and Money Inc., a financial consulting firm, and author of *Balancing Act: A Canadian Women's Financial Success Guide*

"I'm pretty growth-oriented. Typically, I divide my annual contribution over 12 months and invest it in Canadian equity funds. I also make sure I

get full use of my 20 per cent foreign content allowance."

"But things have changed recently in the form of a 7 1/2% on baby gift. Because I'm self-employed with no benefits, last year I took out a one-year GIC, due at the end of February. So if I needed money to live on during my maternity leave, I could access that. And I wouldn't have to worry about severe tax implications because I've been off work and had little or no income. I won't have to worry about severe tax implications. Though I don't recommend tapping into your RRSP before retirement like this, sometimes you've gotta do what you've gotta do."

"I'll be really curious to see how my attitude changes now that I'm a mom. I would expect I would become more conservative. But then, I think mutual funds are a reasonably conservative way to invest."

A SIMPLE YES OR NO QUESTION OF TAKING CONTROL OF YOUR RETIREMENT.

☐ YES ☐ NO

1. If you ticked yes, you are ready to join over 300,000 other successful Altamira investors who have taken control of their retirement.
2. Our Mutual Fund Specialists will answer any questions you might have and provide you with any information you might need concerning mutual fund investing for your RRSP.
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the contribution. You can save it for a year in which you expect to have a high income and thus reduce your tax bite for that year.

What if I put in too much?

You can overcontribute to your RRSP by up to \$2,000 throughout the life of your plan, without penalty. However, if you go over that \$2,000 mark, you will have to pay interest of one per cent a month on it until you either take it out of your RRSP or use it for another year's contribution. So keep track of the amount and any other pension plans — your company plan, for example — that could push you over the \$2,000 mark.

Up until this year, the margin for error was much larger — \$4,000. Those who have over-contributed in the past by more than \$2,000 won't be penalized, but they will have to use up that extra amount by counting it as their RRSP contribution.

Once I put money in my RRSP does it have to stay there?

Unless your RRSP money is in some kind of locked-in investment, such as a term deposit or GIC, you can take it out any time. However, depending on what your income is at the time when you take it out, you will probably have to pay tax on it. An RRSP also provides a good backup for emergencies such as job loss or unpaid pregnancy or sick leave. You can withdraw your RRSP funds and, since you have no

income, pay little or no tax.

Can I contribute to an RRSP for my spouse?

Yes, and in certain cases it is a good idea. Say you make a lot of money and your spouse makes less. As a result, you are in a much higher tax bracket and together your tax bill is higher than if your incomes were the same. If you just put money into your own RRSP, then that situation

will continue after you retire. The way to get around that is to take some of your annual contribution and put it into your spouse's RRSP. That way, when you retire, you will have roughly equal incomes and pay less tax in total.

And in the meantime, while you're contributing, you still get to deduct your contributions to both your and your spouse's RRSP from your own income.

SIMON LEWIS

President and CEO, Royal Mutual Funds

"I practice what I preach and make my contribution a year ahead, in the

first week in January I review my portfolio when I get my quarterly statements and probably twice a year I make some small changes.

"Right now I have 25 per cent of my RRSP in GICs. I only buy five-year GICs and only when the rates are attractive. Anytime I can get one per cent or better, I lock it in. Fifty per cent is in mutual funds — all different kinds, all ones, of course. I'm well-

diversified and I maximize my foreign investment. The last 25 per cent is in a self-directed RRSP where I buy stocks. I only buy ones I understand, where I know the company and what it's doing. It's the fastest growing part of my portfolio, but I don't intend to buy any more. Whenever I get greedy I tend to make mistakes.

"This year I expect to put 100 per cent into mutual funds. I particularly like the prospectus for Canadian equities. They've lagged behind the US stock market and I think it's Canada's turn."



SANDY RILEY

President, American Group

"Ten or 12 years ago I accidentally got ahead of myself with my RRSP contributions. I put in too much money and I was able to claim it for the subsequent year. Ever since, I've put the money in as soon as I can. The benefits have been quite dramatic."



"I'm 44 and I think I have a good 20 years before I retire, so I focus on equities. The majority as an investor Canadian equity funds and I have some money in a mortgage fund. I also have investments in the US, the Pacific Rim and Europe. Over time TFB become more income-oriented, with less and less risk."

"I learned a good lesson about RRSP investing very early. I had some junior oil and gas stocks and I transferred them into my RRSP. It was the wrong thing to do. The companies are long since gone but I keep the shares in my briefcase. It's a good reminder that the worst thing you can do with your RRSP is put it in an investment that's got a lot of risk."

What happens when I retire?

You can keep on saving in your RRSP until December 31 of the year you turn 71. Trouble is, when you take the money out of your RRSP, it immediately becomes taxable. So instead, you should transfer the funds to a Registered Retirement Income Fund or an

annuity. You will receive regular amounts to live on and pay tax on that income. But it's crucial that you make those arrangements before December 31, or you could get a nasty tax surprise!

Could RRSPs disappear?

Many Canadians worry that the

INVESTING IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

Canadians are allowed to put up to 20 per cent of their RRSP in foreign investments, and the standard thinking today is that they should use that allowance to the limit. Investors who lost money in Latin American funds after the devaluation of the peso may not be so enthusiastic.

Paul Boeda, president of Canadian Wealth Management, understands that feeling. "There was a time when we thought we knew what was going to happen in emerging markets, but we've been taught a lesson. We just don't know enough about the interest rate climate or political situation in a particular region." Boeda is now recommending that his clients buy global funds, rather than those that invest in a particular region.

Despite uncertainties, foreign investing still offers opportunities we may not find at home. "Canadians have been encouraged to invest abroad for three reasons," says Philip Helmer, president of the Bank of Montreal Investment Counsel. "The decline of the Canadian dollar, the poor performance of the Canadian stock market and the very good performance of foreign markets, especially the US."

Once again, it's important to focus on the long term. "Don't think about which part of the world will be hot next quarter or next year," says Kevin J. Kelly, president and CEO of Fidelity Investments. "Think about where there are structural changes taking place and where good economies will be in the next three years, five years, ten years."

The same principles apply for investors worried about Canadian markets in a time of political uncertainty. "Diversification is key at any time, referendum or not," says Jean Préfontaine, president and CEO of the CGA Association of Canada. Investors should make sure their investments are spread across a variety of different types of investments from different issuers. Préfontaine himself always has his RRSP invested in bonds from several different provinces.

And as always, the worst thing you can do with your money is nothing. At least our recent close call has reminded Canadians of the importance of putting their money to work, says Helmer. "People shouldn't panic, but maybe they should panic a little bit. Too often people are paralyzed to indecision, to inaction, so they don't do anything."

1. Save up to 84% in commissions

When you invest with Canada's leading discount broker, you can save as much as 84% on commissions.* And the money you save can go directly into your RSP to earn you more money.

2. Single Source for all your investments

Green Line® is the single source for all your investments including over 400 Canadian and foreign-content mutual funds, Canadian, U.S. and foreign-market listed equities and options, government and corporate bonds, mortgage-backed securities, money market instruments, precious metals certificates and new issues. Maximize your foreign content by bringing together all of your plan holdings in your Green Line RSP.

3. Single, comprehensive statement

Placing your RSP investments in a Green Line Self-Directed RSP has other benefits too. You'll be able to track all your investment activity, including permissible foreign content holdings, with one easy-to-read, comprehensive monthly statement.

4. Fast, accurate executions

State-of-the-art, automated ticket-less trading technology ensures fast, accurate order execution. Green Line ranks #1 or #2 in Canada

in individual retail orders placed on an agency basis in all Canadian, U.S. and foreign market listed equity and option securities.† Green Line delivers the investor services demanded by market professionals.

5. Your choice: \$100 savings on fees, or \$200 savings on commissions

Until February 29, 1996, you have a choice of saving two different ways, if you contribute, or transfer from another institution, a minimum of \$10,000 into your Green Line Self-Directed RSP.

Green Line will waive the \$100 administration fee this year. Or, you can choose a \$200 credit, which can be used against commissions on any trades within your Green Line Self-Directed RSP account, at a rate of \$25 per trade.**

To open an account, visit your local Green Line office, or contact us on the Internet at <http://www.sibank.ca/greenline> or call 1-800-983-4547.

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federal government, desperate for more revenue, could begin to tax RRSPs or dispense with them altogether. But Tom Hockin, former minister of state, finance and former minister of international trade, thinks it's unlikely there'll be significant changes. "The case for RRSPs is more compelling than ever," says Hockin, now president of the Investment Funds Institute of Canada, The IFIC, along with the Conference Board of Canada and the Pension Investment Association of Canada, recently commissioned a study on what would happen if RRSP savings were taxed.

Initially the government would get more money, explains Hockin. But ultimately revenues would actually decline. "Because people's nest eggs would diminish, they would look more to the government for their pensions. And their purchasing power would decrease, and that would slow economic growth. So in the longer term, the government would be making a foolish move."

Once I put the money in my RRSP, what should I do with it? That is what we will be talking about in the other two sections of our RRSP Report. The important point to remember is that in your RRSP you have a unique opportunity to save for your retirement without being taxed on the money your investments earn. So whatever strategy and investments you pick, it's crucial that they earn the money you need in a way you feel is safe.

By Denise Fenton, a freelance Toronto writer

Look for Part 2 of *The RRSP Planner* in *Maclean's* January 28 issue, or online January 23, 1996

MEXICO'S STEEL DUTIES

Mexico imposed duties of 15 to 40 per cent on shipments of hot-rolled steel from Canada in retaliation for alleged dumping. Steelco Inc. of Hamilton, the country's largest steelmaker, called the decision unfair and added with exasperation:

SATELLITE SERVICE LAUNCHED

Global Inc. of Burnaby, B.C., launched Canada's first mobile satellite telephone service. The system employs portable units costing \$4,995 to \$7,500, enabling users to send and receive voice, fax and data calls digitally to and from remote locations anywhere in North America. Mobility Canada, a consortium of Canada's major phone companies, plans to offer a competing service.

PURSuing A DREAM

Air Canada chairman Nolle Harris hopes to start his own airline in the United States when he retires in 1997 or early 1999. The 54-year-old American citizen said he has already talked to Air Canada's executives about investing in a new airline carrier and telling him the airplane to get it going. The airline plans to retire its 35 DC-10s at the same time.

GIANT JOB SLASH

AT&T Corp. of New York City said it will slash 40,000 of its 380,000 jobs worldwide over the next three years. A spokesman said there will be few layoffs in Canada, where the telecommunications giant has about 3,000 employees. But so part of its restructuring, AT&T is effectively ending off its investment in Toronto-based United Communications Inc. (UCI) and a group of banks secretly agreed to take over the troubled long-distance carrier.

MORTGAGE RATES DROP

Many lenders cut mortgage rates to their lowest levels in almost two years. Rates fell across the board by one-quarter to one-half a percentage point. The half-point cut in the five-year rate, to 7.96 per cent, translates into a saving of \$52 a month on a \$100,000 loan amortized over 25 years.

RYCKMAN PLANS BOYCOTT

A lawyer for Calgary businessman Lawrence Ryckman said his client will boycott an Alberta Securities Commission hearing into alleged stock market manipulation. Ryckman, who owns the Calgary Stampede's football team, is accused of breaching securities rules in trades involving Westgroup Corporation Inc., a food-products manufacturer.

Business NOTES

The car of tomorrow?

General Motors Corp. this fall will be the first automaker to sell an electric car for a mass market. The Impact vehicle, which produces no exhaust, will be called EV1 and cost about \$17,000. GM will build the car in Lansing, Mich., for the Arizona and California markets. The west

The first station is located in the parking lot of a BMW station in Los Angeles suburb. "We have every reason to expect that electric vehicles are here to stay and that the market is going to grow," said utility spokeswoman Melanie Savage.

California's Air Resources Board an-



General Motors EV1 electric car: mass sales

Meanwhile, a California electrical utility unveiled the first in a network of electric car-charging facilities that will cover the south-west. Southern California Edison, which is building an "alternative fuels corridor" between Los Angeles and San Bernardino, plans to have 15 charging stations operating at retail outlets and train stations by August.

months last month that it would drop dealers requiring manufacturers to ensure that electric vehicles make up at least two per cent of their new car sales portfolio at the state, beginning in 1996, and five per cent by 2001. But a deadline mandating that electric make up 10 per cent of the new-car market by 2003 remains in effect.

Asper stymied

Widespread media speculation about the dream of creating Canada's third national television network has struck a legal roadblock. In Ontario, Asper's CanWest Global Communications Corp. issued a \$655-million bid for WIC West Inc. International Communications Ltd., which owns eight TV stations, 12 radio stations and two pay TV channels. But because WIC's founders, the Griffiths family of Vancouver, have consented not to sell to CanWest, Asper's bid was contingent upon the acquisition of a separate legal battle over WIC's ownership. Last week, the B.C. Supreme Court issued a ruling in that case that upheld the Griffiths' controlling position. As a result, CanWest officials said they would have to reconsider their bid and deal with the situation, if any, to take next.

The court judgment, which is subject to appeal, resolves a long-running dispute at WIC that has raged since the death of founder Frank

Griffiths Sr. in 1994. Alberta's Allard family, which owns part of WIC, was first into the fray. The two families eventually signed a peace pact, but other minority owners challenged the deal—and with it, the Griffiths' controlling position. Last week's ruling dismissed the shareholders' challenge.

Net censors

The first major political battle over sexually explicit material on the Internet appears to have resulted in a clear victory for the censors. Consequently, the world's No. 1 on-line service, says it is working on software that will make it possible to block access to selected Internet sites on a country-by-country basis. The move follows demands by German officials for a crackdown on cyberspace. Critics say Canada's Internet acts a bad precedent and will encourage other countries to impose their own standards on the Internet. They also say it will force on-line services to take responsibility for material they did not create.



A doomsday scenario for Canada in 1996

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

The new year began with a wave of sinister speculation about how Canada's future would unfold in the next 12 months, and the president predicted that those who heard them might find a distinct chill in their backbones down Canadian spines. The most frightening scenario being stretched out among those who occupy the nation's top political and business circles was something like this:

About six years in Lucien Bouchard's term as the Quebec government, likely before the end of the month, he will legislate secession at the state of the province's deficit (\$5 billion and counting) and with all the backslaps he can muster (which isn't a hell of a lot) the new premier will declare that being a good democrat isn't all that just, he really can't continue to offer without obtaining a renewed mandate from the people. He will exploit federal Finance Minister Paul Martin's toughness, cost-cutting budget, due in February, to drive home his point (or try by receiving a strong mandate from the voters can be light effectively to preserve Quebec's social welfare programs and create jobs. He will "reluctantly" call an election for April, and devote his remarkable political talents to re-mounting—re-mounting—the triumphal march through the province that brought him so close to victory last Oct. 30.

With Liberal Leader Jean Chrétien finally held back by increasing dissension in his own ranks, and the odds leaning to campaign electricity in a strictly provincial context, Bouchard would quickly move to his historic popularity bids, with the polls showing him two thirds or more of the votes. At a mass rally, say a week or so before election day, Bouchard would switch from his platform of working a mandate to create jobs and balance the budget, and confirm that he really can't attain either objective, because remaining part of Canada is too much of a burden. Faced by a provincial election, the contest will suddenly turn into a decisive

Lucien Bouchard could turn a provincial election into a decisive vote on the future of the country—and win with an overwhelming majority

vote on the future of Canada—and the separatists will win with an overwhelming majority. At this point, Bouchard will declare—and add that he will have carried—a mandate for secession from the people of Quebec. (Despite all the loss-devised to them, referendums do not have nearly the legal status of elections.)

That doomsday scenario remains strictly speculative, though no one is dismissing it lightly. At the same time, Quebec separatists were shaking their heads last week, as Prince Edward Island claimed and was awarded its place in Jean Chrétien's regional veto initiative. Now, P.E.I., with the help of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, can block any proposed constitutional change. That means that the country's future could hinge on the island's 136,000 people. Such money will make Bouchard's mission much easier.

Whether or not that scary possibility really happens, many Canadians—just barely in British Columbia and Alberta—have begun to take it for granted that Quebec will decide to go its own way sometime in the next 18 months. A vocal exponent of this trend is Pat McGee, a Vancouver politician-scientist who held five portfolios in the provincial

government of Bill Bennett's Liberals, though he has spent most of his life doing internationally recognized neurological research. (He has a PhD in chemistry from Princeton as well as his M.D. from the University of British Columbia.) "We need to set a course that will allow Canada to thrive with or without Quebec," he told me in an interview last week. "As long as we remain on the edge and feel that we can't go on unless we can somehow persuade the Quebecers to throw their lot in with Canada, we will remain paralyzed. We must set an achievable direction for the country, invite Quebec to come along, and if they decide to opt for their own independence, God bless them. The way to set that course is to determine now what the terms of such a divorce would be."

McGee believes that the resultant stability would enhance both economies and allow more Canadians to follow their dreams. The conditions for separation that he sets would be included in a federal act, passed by Parliament at its next session. It would include provisions that more than 50 per cent of all eligible voters (not just those who have actually cast ballots) of any province petitioning to opt out of Canada approve the separation is a referendum, that the departing province guarantees to Canada free access through land, rail and water corridors, that areas of the seceding province contiguous to Canada with populations that strongly over 50 per cent, recent separation would be allowed to remain in Confederation, that all economic, social, and legal ties between the newly independent province and Canada would be severed and the seceding province would assume its per capita share of the national debt, that any disagreements would be arbitrated by the International Court at The Hague.

"So far so setting some serious issues for this country," he continues, "who is really mandated to do that? Certainly it's not the politicians. Such things really consist of the sum of the accomplishments of individual citizens, they are defined in advance, they emerge out of prevailing circumstances. National dreams will evolve out of male Canadians being granted more opportunities, and I believe that will happen as a result of the stability brought about by setting out solid and acceptable constitutional policies before they may be required."

McGee believes that Canadians should stay trying to salvage what appears to be a natural evolution toward separation in Quebec, and let the people go. He is convinced that northern Canadians will never improve conditions that don't guarantee equality of all citizens. McGee wants to establish a foundation to promote some of his ideas, which also speak to eliminating the national debt and doing away with the layers of bureaucracy that will separate the governments and the governed.

Certainly, in western Canada he will have little trouble rousing up disruption. "Everything," he maintains, "flows from the fundamental principle of equality."

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Running on the fast track to Atlanta

Bailey victories in Göteborg. Everyone is scared. They don't want another Ben.

Donovan Bailey begins a new year in the spotlight

BY JAMES DEACON

The fastest man in the world is in no hurry, even though he is the last passenger to board the flight from Toronto to Montreal. As a flight attendant closes the door behind him, Donovan Bailey shuffles down the aisle and finds his seat in economy. Unmolested by the other passengers on the business-day shuttle, the Guelph, Ont., resident neatly folds his leather trench coat, places it atop his suitcase in the overhead bin, and settles in beside him, Kevin Albrecht. They have to save the schedule for the day ahead, working with Bailey's new sponsor on a TV commercial. They also have to plot Bailey's Atlanta timetable leading to the Atlanta Olympics next July, due suggested by his immediate mid-air—yellow towel rest, baggy, rolled-up white shirt and perfectly pressed, dark-green trousers—Bailey is a clockwork

certain details. But when it comes to making and following schedules, he has no patience. "I'll run," he tells Albrecht, laughing. "I won't handle all the other stuff." Bailey will call his astrologer in Canada, but that is about to change. In the next two weeks, he and fellow sprinter team members Ernie Sims of Montreal and Glenroy Gilbert of Ottawa will be the main attractions at three televised indoor meets—Jan. 12 in Hamilton, Jan. 14 in Saskatoon and Jan. 22 in Montreal. And since winning the world 100-m championship last summer in Göteborg, Sweden, the 26-year-old Bailey has become a last marketing commodity. Three new Canadian sponsors—Helene Curtis, Coca-Cola and a soon-to-be-renounced third company—in addition to his longtime supporter, Adidas, are all planning pre-Olympic advertising campaigns featuring the Canadian sprinter. Bailey has discovered that being in the

spotlight is not as glamorous as it appears. The hours are grueling and the work is tedious. But the commercials ensure that, in terms of his profile and his bank balance, Bailey will be running in the top lane all the way to Atlanta. On his pre-Olympic trip to shoot a commercial for Deere—a deerskin coat made by Helene Curtis—he certainly takes everything in stride. Arriving in Montreal, Bailey finds the city in the hard grip of winter. The American native moved with his father to Canada when he was 4, and currently trains full time in Austin, Tex. "I don't do winter very well," he says, shaking the snow off his feet in a downtown hotel lobby. Over a cup of tea and a bowl of soup in the hotel's canteen, he talks about how sponsors mean money about dealing with Canadian track athletes. Companies have sent long-time Ben Johnson's positive test for steroids at the 1988 Summer Games in South Korea



After lunch, Bailey must sit for some still photographs. The studio is close to the hotel, but the snow has begun to pile up and the hoodless Bailey slips narrowly along the sidewalk. "I'm a leapy shaggy," he admits. "My ankles are too weak." Inside and barely warm, he poses in running shorts and a lime-green singlet, then in an orange one. Bailey is anatomically proportioned, with powerful, long legs, a muscular torso and a muscular 5'8-inch waist. At rest, his facial expression is serious, but for the camera he offers a version of the 200-meter smile that graced the sports pages the day after his Guelph triumph. He looked the same at the Canadian championships last July, when he ran the 100 in a personal-best time of 9.81 seconds. The photographer asks him to mimic his first across-the-finish-line winning pose, hands outstretched in the air. He does his best, but it is no substitute for the real thing. There is a break in the schedule for dinner and a brief rest; the commercial will be shot between 11:30 p.m. and 6 a.m. at an indoor track in north Montreal. What little sleep he gets is interrupted by an eager production assistant who calls the hotel room to make sure Bailey knows the timetable. It is still raining when he lies down, and only a cold at 11:15 p.m. The driver boards him the night as if he is a rich, indolent lord around corners and hitting speeds of more than 200 km/h before arriving at the wrong athlete facility in the wrong part of town.

Finally on the set, Bailey gets back into his track suit and, between takes, stars warm in a terry-cloth robe. "Our Olympic team should be really good," he says, unbothered. "I am really looking forward to it." He should. As was the Games' general event—over such spectators as Britain's Lord Clinton and American Leroy Brown—would bring him not only glory but considerable gain. He will also likely anchor Canada's



Before the cameras: "Our team should be good"

and the subsequent Dasha inquiry into drugs in sport. As a result, Canadian sprinters are suspect on and off the track. "Everyone is scared about drugs," says Bailey, who was tested more than 20 times in 1995. "And it's easy to understand. They don't want another Ben."

also likely anchor Canada's 4 x 100-m relay team, which includes Sims, Gilbert and Robert Esmie of Sudbury, Ont. Not bad for a guy who started a small telemarketing firm after he graduated from Guelph's Sheridan College and did not begin running seriously until his freshman year. Not bad for a guy who started a small telemarketing firm after he graduated from Guelph's Sheridan College and did not begin running seriously until his freshman year. Not bad for a guy who started a small telemarketing firm after he graduated from Guelph's Sheridan College and did not begin running seriously until his freshman year.

Work progresses slowly—the commercial is being shot in two-second segments—and by 2 a.m. Bailey is pacing the darkened gym to stay awake. "I'm drinking, man, drinking," he says with a sly grin. "I'm not drinking." He is not. Bailey, most recently in Santa Monica, Calif., has added that an ad campaign from legendary U.S. sprinter Jesse Owens, the

star of the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, because of their similar approaches to making "Jesse would just show up and run—he didn't care who else was there," Bailey says. "I'm the same way." Merely, the shoot finishes at 6 a.m., but Bailey gets only a couple of hours of sleep. He and Albrecht have to be up in time to fly back to Toronto for a headline news conference to announce that deal with Helene Curtis. Before leaving for the airport, Bailey must wait for the pants to a new suit, which the company is supplying, to be hemmed. He is not happy, though he did not bring the right shoes. "Everything has to be a certain way—my hair, my clothes, everything," he explains. "I want everything to match, or I go crazy." Boarding the flight, he hides his unshapely nose and fatigue behind a pair of sleek, metal-framed sunglasses. He is thrilled by his success, he says, but not completely surprised. He has run successfully faster than each year since he began racing, particularly since early 1994, when he started working with coach Don Platt at the University of Texas. "I've always had this thing about being the best," he says. "In high school, I always finished in first place. In one season, I scored 30 points in the first half, then I took out for one in the second half. It's something I got growing up in the playground. 'Whoever you can do, I can match'." The news conference is at a downtown Toronto hotel. In the cab from the airport, Albrecht asks if Bailey is comfortable speaking in front of a large group of people. "I'm nervous," Bailey says. "No, I'll do anything." The conference attracts an impressive turnout from local and national media—Bailey is big news, even looking delectable. Unsurprisingly, the media's interest in the action from the previous night's shoot, then introduce the star. As promised, he says all the right things, thanking his new sponsor, reviewing his accomplishments in 1995 and promising more great finishes for 1996. Some, though, Helene Curtis, marketing director, looks pleased. "I think I went very well," he says. Bailey does a dozen one-on-one interviews with the writing reporters, then escapes to Guelph for a night and to see his girlfriend, Michelle, and their 18-month-old daughter, Adina. But he has one more commitment on his calendar. On this night, Queen Elizabeth Park School, is holding its annual reunion basketball game in Guelph that night, and he wants to play—sleep or no sleep. "I missed a last year," he says, "and I don't want to miss this year." But he does. Bailey arrives after the game has been played, though he still gets a chance to see old friends at a year when he will be surrounded with training and travel. He can already see the "I'll stop running at about age 30 or 35 years," he says. "I want to get back in the game in my daughter. But right now, I'm sacrificing fatherhood to live up to a dream." □

Same time next year

Canada adds another victory to a junior hockey dynasty

Before its gold-medal game against Sweden at the World Junior Hockey Championships in Boston last week, the Canadian team received a note from Wayne Gretzky. The Great One is an alumnus of the national junior team—the 1978 edition. Back then, a Canadian victory was the exception—the powerful Soviets were usually the team to beat, relegating even Gretzky's country to a bronze. But the Soviet empire is gone, and its hockey supremacy with it. In Boston, the Canucks—during their fourth straight championship—edged the Russians in a riveting game to reach the final. "Just a short note to wish you good luck against Sweden," wrote Gretzky. "We will all be watching." The message was clear: the stands at the poorly organized event may have been empty, but "Grec" Canada was not alone. The squad responded with a solid 4-1 victory over the Swedes last, later, as the victory party raged in the dressing room, Gretzky's point was reinforced by a congratulatory call to coach Marcel Corbin from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. "He is a busy man, and a leading Canadian," said his aide, "so he takes time to talk to us means something to the guys."

The Canadian joy contrasted sharply with the dejection and embarrassment in the American camp. The host team was undermanned and quickly prepared, finishing a disappointing fifth. That performance left the tournament without a main draw—a competitive home team the locals could rely around. Organizers of the 10-day, 10-country competition, meanwhile, were roundly criticized for everything from bad marketing to choice of arena. Although the tournament was held in Boston, game games were played at Worcester, Mass., nearly 300 km away. Worse, New Englanders secretly sawed that the world's best teenage players were on their doorstep. Growth for some games numbered in the hundreds either side of the thousands, and critics called for change at the sport's governing body, USA Hockey. Peter Ramstein, a USA Hockey developer and owner of the NHL's Hartford Whalers and the Detroit Jr. Whalers of the Ontario Hockey League, called the American team's performance "pathetic" and promised to take his complaints to the board.

The Canadian program does as such rebellion. Although former teams were known for their rough play—Canada was kicked out of the 1987 championship because of a bench-clearing brawl with the Soviets—recent Canadian entrants have been models of decorum. That approach—holding back but staying out of the penalty box—has produced action world-wide in the last four tournaments. "We feel safely here for progress forward," said Bob Nicholson, Canadian



Canada's Owen Goadbeer (21) in victory; and in action (left), five-lined

Hockey's senior vice-president of hockey operations. Noting that the organization will not rest on its laurels, he added, "We always will try to make a few adjustments."

The championship is one-stop shopping for NHL scouts and general managers. Virtually every top prospect in the world is on display, and good performances can determine how high players will be drafted by NHL teams each spring. The tournament is also important for players who have already been selected. Hailing Vancouver Canucks pick Martin Orlund of Sweden saw his stock rise when he was named the top defenceman in the tournament. And the outcome was sweet revenge for 18-year-old

Canadian right winger Jarome Iginla. When the Edmonton native, a draftee of the Dallas Stars, was recently traded with center Corey Milius to Calgary for hometown center Joe Nieuwendyk, a Calgary newspaper headline asked: "Jarome who?" The answer came in Boston, where the personable Iginla led Canada in scoring with five goals and 22 points, and was named the event's top forward. "He'll make people in Calgary forget about Joe Nieuwendyk," said Corbin. Before they had much time to celebrate, the Canadian players departed in their respective junior and college leagues across the continent. It was a bittersweet party for a group that was drawn together only days before the tournament. Captain Nolan Baugartner, 18, now back with the Kootenay Blazers, said that in building their team, it helped to be reminded that players like Gretzky had once pulled on the same jerseys. "That is what separates us from the others," he said. "It is just in our blood, and we didn't want to let the history of this down."

JAMES DESMOND with ALAN ADAMS in Boston



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Loose ends dangle from the Airbus story

BY GEORGE RAIN

"Where, oh where, was the Airbus gone?
Where, oh where, was it?"

For a while there, when it was about who got how much money for getting some gossipy gossipy to help the European Airbus campaign felt unpalatable to Air Canada, the story was the biggest in the land. Unchecked reports turned up everywhere, saying Canadians, then some Canadian politicians, finally a Canadian political leader (but not on CBC TV) were about to be exposed in a backdoor scandal.

We have 12 political leaders in Canada—two in the territories, 10 provincial premiers and a prime minister. As only one of these would ever be within reach of any influence on any Airbus Air Canada dealings, the same might as well have been spelled out. MULLOKEAN, however, obviously no friend of Brian Mulroney, but with friends in the department or public, the RCMP, or both, was planning information in the media.

Various large broadcast and print entities were at bursting point, looking their breath for fear of saying the name and riding a suit for libel, while lawyers for Mulroney as minister on Nov. 16 that he was using the government of Canada for \$50 million for detention.

As the truth rattle of excitement over that died down, the story as a whole slipped sideways and downward into one about how it had the former prime minister got a copy of a damning letter that the Canadian justice department had written the Swiss justice department. It was a formal letter: requesting Swiss assistance in naming Mulroney's role to the wall. However, his sons the justice department proved less easy to political journalists than efforts the father: around to get him, their No. 1 hole object, in the backdrop. As a result, the story was as good as dead, loose ends hanging out all over. A pity.

Ministers who have tried to shuffle off responsibility onto their bureaucrats have been given a hard time in both Parliament and the press. Until now.

For instance, there is still to be fleshed out the waxy story of Justice Minister Allan Rock's part in the affair. All we know is that Rock, early on, said there would be any "but" part. As that, all those tooth-and-claw newspaper reporters in the parliamentary press gallery shrugged and said, "Well, if he says so, that's that," and returned to their manna-cakes as the last demanding question, "Whether or not denying?"

Well, it is a fundamental of our parliamentary democracy that a minister is responsible for all that is done in his or her department. Responsibility for wrong, or questionable, decisions cannot be shuffled off to bureaucrats, or the state of the mood, or the lack of the draw. Ministers who have tried that, or been suspected of it, have been given a hard time in both Parliament and the press. Until now.

Can anyone really and truly believe that a letter accusing the previous prime minister of being a crook and asking for help in seeking him to jail was signed by a lone civil servant at the justice department and sent to the Swiss justice department, without its having been seen, let alone discussed, by the minister of justice, the Prime Minister, and probably the whole cabinet?

Nevertheless that the whole business on the government/policy side of the other is richly suspect, the reporting has spoken vividly of that letter containing "false notes." My dictionary says an allegation is "an assertion made without substantial proof." The letter was written in German and in an official translation prepared for Mulroney's lawyers—which has been everybody's basis for reporting or commenting on it—characterizes what it says about three matters that it dips in "proof." The information, the letter says, is "proof" of a plotting plot/conspiracy by M. Mulroney (and two others) who defrauded the Canadian government of millions of dollars. "That is a very allegation!"

No, that is not an allegation, but a charge an accusation, and, edited as a statement of fact, it is. If there was proof or anything like it, Ottawa would not be trying to seduce the Swiss into a fishing expedition.

Another question. Answer here: remember Gordie Manning? John Chretien would, for was a quick and imitative young MP when her name came up in Parliament in 1988. He would recall that Lester B. Pearson, his prime minister, had asked the RCMP commissioner several years earlier if he had any information about surreptitiously by any MP in the previous 15 years.

The commissioner obviously a man who knew a hint when he heard one, produced an answering with bells on: the associate minister of national defence in the previous Conservative government, Pierre Sevrup, had been heard during Mulroney's time, a German woman who was believed by the RCMP to be a Soviet spy. (The RCMP, like the FBI, was hot on Russian spies at the time.)

Some reporters close to the Liberal government knew about this back the government was holding. However it was when the government was being harassed by the Conservative Opposition that it dropped its payload—with a calculated aim of the tongue-the-master of policy of the time, Lucien Carde, revealed Mulroney's name in the House of Commons, writing off Canada's last major parliamentary war scandal.

It seems fairly evident that in 1992, someone, or some ones, possibly even reporters with good connections, knew the Chretien government had what it thought was a war-bomb to use to distract public attention if it found a bad patch. The Pearson government's bad patch was running into as many as scandals. The Chretien government's, now, is over its handling of the Quebec referendum.

If we are having a replay of the Stalins, it would help if the reporters of the Nations were to scavenge more of the substance of the story by their own efforts, to balance all the earlier upon itself from unidentified sources. Chretien is flower was the cry in the media—and the Swiss. She lived in Munich. There is no Gordie Manning in this Airbus business, of course—not in the same role, anyway. But there is no telling what the reporters might find if they tried.

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PEOPLE

A WARNING TO FLEET STREET

This time last year, the British tabloids had a field day when Pierce Fennell was photographed playing a kiss on an unidentified woman's cheek. The women turned out to be Tiggy Legge-Bourke, niece to his sons, William and Harry. Charles welcomed that news, merely congratulating her for completing a difficult run at the Swire air meet of London. As a divorcee between Charles and Diana, Princess of Wales, becomes ever more likely, the tabloids looked into his past in their search for romantic liaisons involving either of the partying royals. Still, Legge-Bourke, now 36, has tried to avoid being glib for their summer wife. As Charles, the prince and Tiggy-Bourke headed off for their annual trip last week, she sent a letter to all British newspapers asking them not to print gossip concerning her relationship with the heir



Legge-Bourke in London: 'Yes'

to the throne. Legge-Bourke was not talking, but her lawyer said she issued the warning because of unspecified "irretrievable love" surrounding the press. That done, Legge-Bourke departed for Montreal, where, despite her pleas she was bound to be doing room shuttling from schussing.

TELLING A TALE OF COURAGE

When journalist Larry Aarons recently read about Bobby Griffith, a gay 19-year-old who jumped off a Port Jervis, Ore., bridge in 1993 and was run over by a transport truck, the story immediately struck a chord. Aarons, a former executive editor of *The Oakland Tribune* in California, had also experienced difficulties as a gay youth. He was moved to write his first book, *Prayers for Bobby*, which tells the story of Griffith and his mother,

Mary Griffith, a former female member Christian who for years had pleaded with her son to renounce his sexual orientation. Now a social activist, Griffith speaks to the parents of lesbians and gays about the importance of accepting their children. Aarons, 62, interviews his account with poignant wisdom from Bobby's personal journals, as well as what Aarons discusses in *Mary*

KIDDING AROUND

Although he does not particularly enjoy helping out with the cheer on his family's farm about 30 km southwest of Calgary, Ben Campbell is a natural in the role of a 13-year-old farm boy on the new television series *Juke and the Kid*. "Some of the things he did done on the show are exactly what I do," says the 11-year-old Campbell. The script for the family drama, on the CW/Net Global TV network on Saturday nights, are based on the short stories of Prairie novelist W. O. Mitchell about life as a small Saskatchewan town after the Second World War. But while the youngster says he enjoys portraying Ben Osborne, the kid who isolates hard head Juke Trueman (Steven Johnson), Campbell adds he is not entirely sure that he wants to be an actor when he grows up. Perhaps, he says, he will become a teacher. Obviously, that then Campbell adds, "I don't think any 13-year-old boy knows what he really wants to do at that age."



Johnson, Campbell, ideal



Aarons: the importance of accepting children

Griffith's "are you contemplating" to God—refers from his own diaries in which she struggles with her role in Bobby's death. Says Aarons: "This is both the story of our family's tragedy and a profile of one woman's courage."

RIVERS OF BLUES

Most of the influences on *The River*, a new album by Mississippi musician Jim Byrnes, can be traced to spots along the Mississippi River—namely New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz, or St. Louis, where Byrnes grew up. But other parts of his first recording occurred near another river—the Seine. A guitarist and blues singer, Byrnes is also an actor who spends part of each year in Paris shooting *Angélique*, the Canadian French television series in which he plays bar owner Joe Dawson. "In Paris, I've found myself alone with a lot of time to spare," says Byrnes, 47. "And you go



Byrnes: 'you got very inspired' in Paris

and sit in these cafes where James Joyce used to get loaded, or where Proust used to drink, and you get very inspired." Byrnes says he turned to music 20 years ago when he got into legal jobs in a car accident, and had trouble finding work as an actor. Now, however, in Hollywood, a co-5 drama syndicated in over 30 countries, he continues both careers; occasionally, his character breaks into song. "In one episode," says Byrnes, "my girlfriend is murdered, and they find me, in my angst, sitting at the bar with the guitar and singing 'The River' themselves. The situation showed as himself, has the true spirit of the blues."

Edited by BARBARA WICKENS

Backpack

DOSING ON ANTIBIOTICS

Doctors warn against excess use of germ-fighting drugs

The pressure tactics used by patients at Dr. Warren McIsaac's family practice in Toronto are both varied and subtle. "Sometimes, people will just tell me there's a sense of disappointment," McIsaac says, describing what happens when he tells patients they do not need antibiotics. "Other people say things like, 'Look, every time I get a cold, it goes right to my chest. I don't get antibiotics.' Even though McIsaac goes to explain to them that cold viruses are immune to antibiotics—and that the overuse of such drugs can make it harder to fight future infections—he admits he sometimes prescribes the drug anyway. "There are times I've given it when people are especially demanding," he says. "You know that if you're mean, they're at the doctor because they feel you can give them antibiotics."

It may all seem harmless enough, but experts warn that the unnecessary use of antibiotics is contributing to what may soon develop into a public health emergency. Around the world, bacteria that cause dysentery, gonorrhea and tuberculosis are becoming increasingly resistant to the antibiotic drugs most commonly used to treat them. And in Canada, infectious disease specialists are now routinely advising parents with alarming regularity: "It's sort of an urban myth," says Jaime Davies, head of microbiology and immunology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. "And by using antibiotics the way we do, we're precluding ourselves with the virus."

As an immunologist, researchers point to what is happening with *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, one of the most common causes of bacterial infection and the bug responsible for most ear infections, pneumonia and meningitis. Most strep infections are easily treated with a single dose of penicillin. But Dr. Andrew Senneker, head of microbiology at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto, says the bugs are becoming resistant to penicillin at a frightening rate. Some 15 per cent of strep germs can no longer be treated with normal doses of

Only the would-be hosts in the era of infectious diseases causing serious anxiety



penicillin—up from 1.5 per cent in 1993. As many as half of those are also resistant to other common antibiotics such as tetracycline and erythromycin, forcing doctors to choose medicine that is more expensive and that causes more side-effects. "This is an important bug," says Senneker. "And because of this resistance, it is becoming extremely difficult to treat."

Bacteria are also feared about a recent outbreak at The Toronto Hospital of a potentially dangerous strain of enterococcus—a bacteria commonly found in the bowel flora, if it manages to enter parts of the body, can cause blood, bladder and kidney infections in people who are already ill. Identified in 36 kidney patients during routine screening, the germ caused only one person to become seriously ill—reversing the use of experimental drugs. But Dr. John Gough, the centre's director of infection control, fears that if it turns up again it could pass its resistant DNA to a strain of *Staphylococcus* bacteria—a common cause of wound infection, tissue abscess, septicaemia and other poisoning—for which only one antibiotic, vancomycin, is effective. If that happens says Gough the antibiotic could be rendered ineffective, making some stage infections untreatable. "We would be back in the era of acute infectious diseases causing serious morbidity in our population."

Unfortunately, bacteria have an extraordinary ability to adapt to their environment. Germs can thwart antibiotics with the use of genetic material called plasmids, which are passed off the germ's DNA. Successfully altered bacteria can change their outer walls or penetrate their internal anatomy to stop antibiotics from doing their job.

They can even produce enzymes that annihilate the drugs meant to do their thing. Bacteria are also using their most productive means of copying themselves: their resistant DNA, with a wide variety of other bacteria. And they proliferate at a breakneck pace. Bacteria can divide every 20 minutes and, in ideal conditions, can produce a new colony of more than 250,000 cells within six hours.

Bacteria's propensity for survival became obvious in the early 1940s, when what infection developed because doctors waited a few years of the drug's introduction. More than 100 new antibiotics have been developed since, but bacteria have generally found a way to outsmart them. One problem confronting doctors is that there has been no new class of antibiotics produced for at least 50 years—in part, because drug companies understand the need for new forms of treatment. But even if new approaches are found, experts say bacteria would eventually circumvent them. "Many of us feel we are on a treadmill," says Dr. Anthony Nicol, former director of the infection control unit at Winnipeg's Health Sciences Centre. "The bugs are a lot smarter than we are, and are always two steps ahead of us."

Every exposure to an antibiotic—even if the drug is being properly used—gives bacteria more chance to utilize their evolutionary skills. A steady increase in the use of such drugs has given the germ an even greater head in our fight to survive. "The more you use an antibiotic, the more resistance you have," notes Dr. Stuart Levy, co-founder of the Boston-based Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics. According to market analyst IMS Canada, pharmaceuticals dispensed 26.3 million prescriptions for oral antibiotics in the 12 months ending Oct. 31, 1995—a



EXPERTS' ADVICE

Bacteria will always find ways of resisting antibiotics. Experts say, however, that the problem can be kept to a minimum with proper drug use. Some factors to keep in mind:

- Colds, flu and up to 80 per cent of some throat are caused by viruses and do not respond to antibiotics. Dr. Andrew McIsaac, a physician and family physician and a member of the Canadian Medical Association's health-care committee, says antibiotics should never be taken to treat viral infections, since use promotes resistance among bacteria that cause the body.
- So-called broad-spectrum antibiotics, designed to wipe out several types of bacteria at once, are often prescribed when a doctor has not made a clear diagnosis. Miller recommends waiting a day or two for test results so the doctor can prescribe the most specific antibiotic possible.
- Patients with bacterial infections often feel better and stop taking antibiotics after a few days. Patients to complete the full course of treatment, however, can give the hardest germs a chance to develop resistance.
- Using antibiotic pills left over from a previous infection or passed on by a friend does not make sense, either. The bacteria given germs that live in the body an extra chance to adapt. It can also make diagnosis of the illness more difficult.

30-per-cent increase over the same period in 1993 and a number approved only by prescriptions for cardiovascular drugs. Around one of three prescriptions for antibiotics such as vancomycin—commonly used to treat infections after surgery—has also grown by as much as 50 per cent.

The increase is at least partly justified, doctors who have undergone an in-depth training, for example, need more powerful antibiotics to keep infections at bay. But in many other instances, researchers say the use of antibiotics is unnecessary, a result either of overuse or of misdiagnosis or of hard diagnoses. According to a recent study in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, as many as half of all antibiotic prescriptions are not needed. "It's almost a generalised phenomenon that we want the quick fix in society, and antibiotics fall into that category," says Gough.

McIsaac, who is studying antibiotic use at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences in Toronto, says parents often expect to get the drugs even if they have a cold or flu, which are caused by viruses and cannot be treated with anything but fluids, rest and painkillers. Just as often, doctors have difficulty ending an acute viral diagnosis of an illness such as strep throat or an ear or sinus infection, meanwhile, are unwilling to wait for test results. As a result, he says, physicians prescribe antibiotics for up to a third of patients with a strep throat—over the number who actually have the infection.

Children with ear infections also appear to be receiving too many drugs, adds Dr. Ronald Gold, an infectious disease specialist at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. Ear infections are routinely treated with antibiotics. Recent studies show, however, that 30 per cent of patients do not need the pills as quickly without treatment. The problem, says Gold, is that doctors lack "a simple way of identifying which children don't need antibiotics. We're stuck."

Many experts also believe the rampant use of antibiotics in animals grown for human consumption has contributed to germ resistance. Such drugs are considered essential for many reasons, but can be direct of awards quick growth rather than fighting infections. There is no evidence that animal germs that have developed resistance to antibiotics pose any threat to humans. The resistant *MRSA*, however, can be transferred to human bacteria, resulting in an even greater pool of bugs for which there is no easy treatment.

Given scientists' inability to come up with drugs that can outsmart bacteria, researchers are working to develop new vaccines that could prevent the most common germs from causing infections in the first place. They have had recent success with *Haemophilus influenzae*, a highly resistant childhood bacteria that in the past three years has been all but eliminated in Canada thanks to a vaccine routinely injected in two-month-old babies. A vaccine for *Streptococcus pneumoniae* has also shown promising results. But an effective *MRSA* vaccine will, even more, are off-limits today since they are only effective against 10 per cent of the targeted germs. For most people, the best advice is to test antibiotics with equal doses of respect and sober second thought.

AMIE HARRIS

How to get the most from frequent-flyer programs

In the language of travellers who seriously subscribe to frequent-flyer programs—those reward schemes that offer air miles to lure customers—Edmonton's David Balcer is a hard-core mileage junkie. The 47-year-old television documentary producer joined both of Canada's frequent-flyer programs—Air Canada's Aeroplan and Canadian Airlines' Canadian Plus—when they started in the mid-1980s. Over the years, he has redeemed his points for about 20 free trips to destinations on four continents—not including the three free business-class tickets he currently holds for travel to Asia. Even after cashing in his points for those tickets, Balcer still has more than 200,000 air miles stacked in his four frequent-flyer accounts, the other two with U.S. airlines. "I've enjoyed a lot of great free travel," says Balcer. "But earning miles can be as

THE HEIGHTS OF FREE TRAVEL

complex as the stock market. You've got to watch all of the rules and trends closely to maximize the benefits."

There are, indeed, a lot of choices in the frequent-flyer game. Worldwide, there are 79 such programs. Airlines typically offer credit members with one point for every mile they fly. Earning points becomes complex, though, because many airlines also award miles when travellers take the services of central agencies, hotels and other airlines—and sometimes for travel in certain periods. While the details can be confusing, a few basic rules will help even casual travellers stretch their air miles. Says Randy Peterson, editor of *InsideFlyer*, a magazine devoted to live air travel: "You should track the credits and miles to your frequent-flyer program with the same care as you do your bank statement."

Picking the right program is often as easy as choosing a destino. In Transborder (from New Zealand to Australia) can get an economy ticket to the region for 75,000 points through Canadian Plus, compared with 500,000 points with Aeroplan. But for Scandinavia, Aeroplan is a better choice, since members are allowed to cash in their points for five seats on a partner airline Finnair.

Peterson advises travellers who fly only occasionally to concentrate their point accumulation on one or two airlines that frequentize their miles among several programs. And all travellers should take full advantage of opportunities to earn points through partner programs and special promotions. For instance, Aeroplan members travelling from Toronto to Philadelphia on Air Canada can earn a triple bonus this month as the regular 1,000-mile award for the round trip. Depending on the hotel they stay in, the extended company they choose, and the airport parking lot they are in Canada, they could rack up an additional 1,250 points. And if all of the above are paid for with an Aerogate Visa or a Starline credit card—Aeroplan members can use points for every dollar they spend with an affinity card—the trip could easily be worth more than 5,000 Aeroplan points. That's about half the amount currently needed under a special promotion for a 30-day round-trip between, say, Montreal and Washington.

Peterson says Aeroplan offers a greater capacity for earning points because a bonus 30,000, one reward and silver partners, compared with 20 for Canadian Plus. Also, Aeroplan's hotel partners include more international chains (Hilton, Marriott, Radisson, Sheraton



Air Canada jet, a few basic rules can help to maximize air-mile credits.

Westin and Holiday Inn, among others. Canadian's hotel partners include Delta, Canadian Pacific, Ramada and InterContinental.

But as attention to its traditional travel partners, Canadian Plus offers some unique ways of earning points. Members now can use miles for every dollar spent with moving companies Atlas Van Lines and Air Canada's 530 purchase from an international furniture store at 200 points. And like Aeroplan, Canadian Plus has an affinity card—the Royal Trust Canadian Plus Visa (points earned on American Express can also be transferred to Canadian Plus). Toronto businessman Tony Paszkowski, who concentrates his travel in Canada because he says the program offers the best reward ratio to the dollar, earns more than half of his miles through credit-card purchases. Over the years, he has racked up almost a million points, which the 59-year-old has used to travel free to Bangkok, Hong Kong and Fiji.

Paszkowski, Balcer and Peterson agree that reward flyers should book big trips—like flights to Europe and Asia—three months or more in advance, especially for summer travel. That is because airlines typically allocate about seven per cent of the seats on a flight for reward travel, making it difficult to find space on popular routes on short notice. It can also make sense to cash in points frequently and use them for travel within North America rather than overseas. "You have to look at what the airlines are charging," says Peterson. "In the summer, you can buy a cheap ticket to Europe for \$500." That is less than an advance-purchase ticket from Halifax to New Orleans. Yet, a trip within North America commands only 35,000 points on Canadian Plus, compared with 100,000 points for Europe. To the five airlines members of Canada's frequent-flyer programs, that is just one of many calculations necessary to get the most from air miles.

PAUL KARRILA

CALENDAR

Torchlight parades and relay races, plus classic concerts and a storytelling festival

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Jan. 11-Feb. 24 The *Positivus of Dawsonia*, Arts Club Main Stage, Vancouver: Surprising plot twists and spectacular special effects mark a comic reworking of the classic tale with Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* as the Countess and the Count. **Jan. 27 and 29** Great Companies Series, The Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver: The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra performs works by Prokofiev, with 25-year-old Canadian violinist James Elmer.

ALBERTA

Jan. 28-Feb. 4 Bard/Lake Louise Winter Festival, Highlights include a torchlight parade, the Mountain Meadows Relay Race, in which team members ski, slide and run to the finish line. **Feb. 8** Jean-Pierre Rampal, Jack Singer Concert Hall, Calgary: The popular French flutist joins the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra.

SASKATCHEWAN

Feb. 15-17 Father/God Banket Ball Tournament, Regina: Teams from across the Prairies compete in Western Canada's oldest basketball tournament.

MANITOBA

Feb. 7-Mar. 2 Alaska, Manitoba Theatre Centre, Winnipeg: Eric Peterson stars in a drama about the love affair between a Canadian man and a Greek woman on the island of Santorini.

ONTARIO

Feb. 26 The Saturday, Joe Thomson Hall, Toronto: An afternoon of music and theatre designed to introduce young audiences to the orchestra. **Feb. 2-4, 9-11 and 16-18** Ottawa Winterlude: The capital's winter festival features speed skating, ice sculpture, fireworks and more.

QUEBEC

Jan. 11-Feb. 4 *Amity and Ophelia*, Grand Theatre, Montreal: Scott

Wentworth and Seana McKenna portray the leads in Shakespeare's tragedy. **Jan. 20-31** Krystel Penderecki, Place des Arts, Montreal: Penderecki conducts the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and violinist John Jullien in the North American premiere of his Violin Concerto No. 2.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Feb. 18-19 StoryFest, Fredericton: StoryFesters bring us by essay as Ireland provide tales of mystery, humor and—*for Valentine's Day*—romance, in—*verser* throughout the city.

NOVA SCOTIA

Jan. 20 Howard Cable, Atlantic City Auditorium, Dalhousie Arts Centre: The renowned Canadian composer leads Symphony Nova Scotia through the music of his 50-year career.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Feb. 11 Early Years of British North America, Confederation Centre and Art Gallery, Charlottetown: Watercolors and drawings document, signify culture and the lives of early settlers.

NEWYOUNGFOUNDLAND

Jan. 26-28 Bay Bulls Winter Carnival: This year's festival focuses on the young and the old, with events ranging from children's games to a seniors' card night.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Feb. 4 Buddy Wakestone and the Other Fellows, Northern Arts and Cultural Centre, Yellowknife: The Newfoundland troupe bring their musical comedy act to the North.

YUKON

Feb. 16-18 Frodo Baggins Music Festival, Yukon Arts Centre, Whitehorse: An eclectic musical gathering that includes SRS Band, two women who play traditional Chinese instruments.

NEXT

A sampling of upcoming diversions

MOVIES

Margaret's Helena Bonham Carter is amazingly credible as a Cezar Delton cool-miner's wife. **Beautiful Girls** Relationship games: The ensemble cast includes Matt Damon, Timothy Hutton, Lisa Thompson, Matt Saracen and Peter Onorati.



Boomer Alan Rickman gets to be truly truly, deeply menacing as Dr. Franz Anton Meiner, the 18th-century healer. **City Heat** K. Price, John Cusack and Bridget Fonda play political hustlers in a thriller. **A Millionaire's Tale** Kenneth Branagh directs a low-budget take about a dispossessed proprietor of Montreal.

VIDEO

Beastmaster Hubert director Robert Rodriguez choreographs gunplay with Antonio Banderas. **The Usual Suspects** With the reward button, viewers can see if the year's most convoluted thriller really holds water. **Boyz n the City** A political thriller as Ice Cube's classic career changes Panama Argue through the jungle. **Dangerous Minds** Catherine John N. Smith directs Michelle Pfeiffer as a justice-seeking schoolroom. **When Night Is Falling** An academic meets a circus lady in a sleazy lesbian romance by Patricia Roberson.

BOOKS

Conscience by Geoff Cheshire (McClelland & Stewart) and **What God Allows: The Crisis of Faith and Freedom in One Catholic Church** by Stephen Donohue (Templeton), among a leading theologian, recounts his loss of faith and charts the decline of Christianity in Western society. **Shapiro**, a former Anglican priest, chronicles a year in the life of a New York state pastor. **Witnesses** by Thomas M. Ryan (Random House): The founder of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's first non-violent group chronicles his transformation from late manager to a vocal opponent of foreign enemies. **The Autobiography of My Mother** Jamaica Kincaid (Pantheon): The acclaimed novelist's memoirs are a coming-of-age story of a young Caribbean girl. **Up Service: The Truth About America's Darker Side** in Love, Sex, and Power (Random House) (HyperCalvin): A Toronto journalist challenges some tenets of orthodox feminism.

AUDIO



Boys for Pele Teri Annas (Warner), the passionate Australian singer-songwriter's first trip of her emotional life. **Silence Within** Carole Annas (Sophie Muller/Polygram): A top-notch take on the French composer. **Lay It Down** Cowboy Junkies (MCA): More longed-for tunes from a leading Canadian band, with songs from Toronto.



Mr. Ewe Tim Tolin (Arista): A collection of songs from his up with players including pop sensation Carole Annas on standards and original compositions. **Passion** José Carreras (Warner): Romantic selections performed by a vocal superstar.

Acting on the edge

Jennifer Jason Leigh likes to play the extremes

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

"Do you mind?" she asks, holding a cigarette and looking around for a guy who'll try (C) course out. One would expect Jennifer Jason Leigh to make it. In fact, it is somehow reassuring that she does. She is sitting up straight in her chair, looking down at her feet, bare legs and body socks obscuring the powerful elegance of a gleasted skirt and matching jacket. The cigarette, and a wary darkness in her eyes, are all that connect this small, polite, delicate woman to the visceral characters she portrays on screen. Leigh specializes in self-destructive souls. Drunks, pedos and prostitutes. Most recently, she has portrayed an alcoholic, pill-popping journalist in *Dallas* (Cineplex), a drunken literary diva in *Mr. Parker and the Darn* (Cineplex) and in her new movie, *Georgia*, a liquor-loving, heroin-cranking singer with redolent delusions of pitch.

All these women drink with a vengeance. "But I don't drink to save my life," says Leigh, sitting forward in a Toronto hotel room. "I'll have a glass of wine occasionally, maybe a martini." But when filming scenes of drinking she takes a measure of caution. "I'll have three just in case that's the real state of the place," says Leigh, measuring a theatrical wink with her fingers, a homocidal dose. "And for the rest is colored water or whatever. I just need to have the taste of it, and a slight lookup of the camera." There she is. "I don't really drink in these characters, it's insurance. It's just something they say. They're all very different women—I never want to play the same character twice."

She never does. Among Hollywood character actresses, Leigh is a virtuosa. At the age of 25, she has made 24 movies. And no screen does Leigh feel consistently asking risks, for cutting to the quick of raw experience. In *Last Kiss to Brooklyn* (1988), she played Trisha, a streetwalker seeking oblivion in a one-lining scene, gives her body to every passing stranger. She was a headliner in the mystery of a mysteriously killing in *Alone* (1988), a narcotics cop strung out on drugs in *Heat* (1990) and a journalistic sociopath in *Single White Female* (1989).

Asked why she has such an affinity for disturbed characters, Leigh says, "They're the



Leigh, disturbed characters are the most fun!

most fun roles to act. You get to go to the deepest places and come to some level of understanding of a woman's life that is very rare from your own, and really step inside that skin." She adds, "The majority of women's roles in Hollywood are just there to show you that the lead character is heterosexual. And they are so generic. When you try to appeal to everybody, you actually appeal to no one." Leighing, she catches her self. "But then I think, what do I know? These movies are blockbusters."

Georgia is no blockbuster. But the movie, which won the grand prize at the Montreal World Film Festival in the fall, features the finest, and most audacious, performance of

Leigh's career. (She was also voted best actress at the festival and, recently, by the New York Film Critics Circle.) Leigh plays Shelia, a substance-abusing singer with an exasperated sense of her own talent. Shelia is deeper study in one of her older sisters, Georgia (Olivia Williams), a successful blueswoman who plays big concerts and raises a family in a more respectable, but equally troubled, manner. As she tries to launch a free ride on Georgia's coattails, the resentment between the punk woman and the well-adjusted star intensifies.

From the opening scenes—Shelia swears through a cocaine eye shadow as she watches her sister perform, then anxiously fiddling with the hem of her dress backstage—Leigh conveys a heartbreaking vulnerability. Throughout the movie, her body language is a study in delinquent eloquence: caskle one minute, growly best not touch forever next, and a fiery curl of her body in dying to get into the act.

Venice director Ugo Graciano (*The Subject Was Roses*, *The Godfather*) shepherds the star into a scene along a gradual pace. And the script tumbles to wrap things up with a neat conclusion, either happy or tragic. But the scenes play with a seamless documentary realism. The road weary footprints in Shelia's hand played by musician John Doe of the group U.2. Williams is a real blues singer. And all the material performed were recorded live.

The highlight is an unforgettable scene of Shelia attempting to save *U.2* Morrison's *Take Me Back* in a packed concert hall while her sister cringes on the sidelines, watching Morrison's stalling style, she delivers what would be a devastating parody, never to be witnessed. Her acceptance as an improviser, but, yet so passionately committed, that the pain of watching her in the spotlight, emotionally atched and blind to her own embarrassment, is almost unbearable—and incredibly moving.

But when it is suggested to Leigh that her best singing is a better list of acting, she says, "I'm really singing the best that I can. It was never, me, a wish to the audience. I don't have a great voice, but I always loved to sing." Leigh has soulful and powerful voice, and both are excellent singers, she adds. "I grew up surrounded by beautiful sounds, and where you have that, you don't really hear your own voice."

Leigh is a child of Hollywood. Her father was actor Vic Morrow (who was killed in a plane crash on the set of *The Untouchables*). Her mother is actress Barbara Turner, who wrote *Georgia* and co-produced it with her. Jason and Leigh are stage names. Although her parents did not push her, Leigh says she always wanted to act. "I was always really shy

and self-conscious, and when I'd act in a play I was suddenly free. I had no inhibitions. From her first starring role at age 15 in a thriller called *Rage* as a Stronger, Leigh showed surprising dedication. She played a girl who has been rendered blind, deaf and dumb by the trauma of rape. "I learned braille," she recalls. "And I learned to do my laundry without sight." In researching her earlier roles, however, Leigh says she knows where to draw the line. To play a phone-sex operator in Robert Altman's *Short Cuts* (1989), she observed the business firsthand, but remained an observer. "I spent days with these women. And they all invited me to do a phone call—I never did a phone call." Adds Leigh, "When I played prostitutes when I was much younger, I had boyfriends who 'Maybe I should pay you tonight.' No. You can't. There are just lines I don't cross."

Meanwhile is one of them. "I've never done heroin," she says. "What I do is talk to as many people as I can about their experience. A lot of them talk about this horrible feeling where everything is so sad and all your muscles and bones and your spirit get heavy and you just feel so good and so warm. Heroin must feel like a great. That's why people get addicted."

Leigh is fiercely protective of her personal life, and declines to discuss it. But acting clearly allows her to explore the underworld with a kind of diplomatic license. "There's always a fascination with the dark side, with people who live on the edge," she says. "And yet, we would never want to go there."

Playing Jack, meanwhile, does not have to be painful. One of Leigh's most bewitched characters, the back-to-back *Last Kiss* was "a lot to shoot," she recalls, "because she's the most innocent character I ever played that when I watched the movie, I realized why people were so upset." One of which was her makeup, who feels it hard to see their hair suffer on screen. "It's a war to win," says Turner, "that out of that lead body she can drop up wisdom that's hundreds of years old."

Hollywood has yet to catch up to Leigh's talent. Critics were shocked when, with so little experience, she failed to get an Oscar nomination last February for her portrayal of Dorothy Parker. "I try not to think about that stuff," says Leigh, "but so many journalists told me I would get nominated that a part of me thought I would. I even had dreamers telling me to wear their clothes." Leigh decided not to wake up for the 5:30 AM TV misadventure of the nominations. "I set my alarm for 6," she recalls. "But I had this nightmare that my mother and little sister came in to say good night and I said, 'Good night, you don't get nominated.' I woke up and it was 3:30, and I was like, 'The thing is, you can never win with awards.'"

Although she has snafu competition this year, Leigh certainly deserves a nomination for *Georgia*. As an actress, she has found her voice on the dark side. But unlike earlier, the desperate war she plays so well, Jennifer Jason Leigh stands in an era's shadow if not



Carrozzini: "perfectly normal" man with a quickened sense of moral ambiguity

Torrid tenement

THE MICHELLE APARTMENTS

Directed by John Pao

Canadian actor Henry Carrozzini has made a career of playing amoral characters—a prototype great in *The Boy of St. Vincent* (1983), a Pentagon villain in *Clear and Present Danger* (1988), and a character in *White Night* is *Fading* (1989). Now in *The Michelle Apartments*, a dark comedy by Vancouver director John Pao, Carrozzini plays just a nice guy, a normal guy—

although everyone else in the movie is so twisted and depraved, he ironically becomes, in a sense, decent.

Carrozzini portrays Alex, a federal government auditor who arrives in a small town to check out the odd and odd, Turbidity Chemicals, a toxic enterprise with the slogan, "We make the food you eat look better." Alex's assignment soon turns into a living hell. After finding his hotel overrun by drunken connoisseurs, he looks into the seamy Michelle Apartments, taking a room left vacant by a murdered woman. The carpet is stained with an indelible patch of vomit. A larger stain is a mysteriously spreading across the ceiling. Pigeons circle at night. And when Alex begins a dangerous flirtation with a seductive tenant named Madeline (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio), she finds herself head to head with her husband, Don (David Kavanagh), a menacing crook.

Michelle Apartments is the kind of movie that gets called quirky, offbeat or idiosyncratic. But much of it seems awfully familiar. The hellish town with the alarming stars seems uncomfortably close to the one in *Shogun* (1987). Like *Blade Runner* (an earlier movie by Pao) creates a sense of someone getting rid of a body that is present dead but has to be buried all with a blunt object at the last minute. And how is that Carrozzini has ended up in two Canadian movies—this one and *White Night* is *Fading*—that are aimed at luxury hotels as a prelude for a sexual liaison?

Despite this derivative overtones, *The Michelle Apartments* has some wit and charm. In coupling up a contemporary town locked in a 1950s time warp, Pao depicts the surreal visual style that marked his first feature, *The Greasy Strain* (1981). And the performances are strong. As the ultimate crook who terrorizes Alex, Carrozzini's performance is in the role of the female villain. Robert shows great poise—he plays the sexual predator without oversteering the cliché. Her scenes with Carrozzini have real chemistry. Carrozzini, as always, brings to the screen a "perfectly normal" character with the same quickened sense of moral ambiguity that others have villainous roles. Still, as a comic thriller that is neither very sexy nor very thrilling, *The Michelle Apartments* is not as truly worthy of its tenets.

B. D. J.



A revered stage production gets adapted to the big screen

The unhappiness of the Tyrone family is similar to all three actors—along with the

Wellington's reputation as an edgy original

JOHN HESBROGH



Arch Genist Doctor, AGF

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BOOKS

Democracy at risk

Do managerial elites have too much influence?

THE UNCONSCIOUS CIVILIZATION

By John Katoen Saul
(Ottawa, 399 pages, \$12.95)

It may be that civilizations, like individuals, are often ignorant of their own true natures. While most people at any given time act with what seems to be good sense, it is equally possible that they exist in an illusory state, blinded by ideology, or by a subconscious view of themselves. That is certainly John Katoen Saul's contention about modern industrial society in *The Unconscious Civilization*, a book that brings to fruition the themes the Toronto-based novelist and social critic developed in his earlier studies, *Viktor's Bastards* (1982) and *The Devil's Companion* (1984). Broadest test all in the 1985 Massey Lecture on CBC Radio, *The Unconscious Civilization* maintains that society is unwittingly destroying the environment with which it can forge a livable future—democracy. The most eloquent of Saul's three books on this subject, *The Unconscious Civilization* has a compact, incisive elegance that bristles with epigrammatic wit and quotes from sources as diverse as Plato and economist Adam Smith.

For Saul, the greatest threat to the democratic way of life stems from what he calls "corporatism." Some of Saul's critics have misinterpreted his use of this term, as if it referred only to large business corporations. But for Saul, IBM, Microsoft's fascist party and government bureaucracies are all corporatist: all are undemocratic, egomaniacal, and tend to co-opt the loyalty of their members from society as a whole. Saul contends that today one-half to two-thirds of the workforce of Western democracies is engaged in the corporatist administration of the public and private sectors. He calls these people the "managerial elites," and sees them as the unwitting promoters of genocidal ideologies that imperil their own personal liberties and undermine the health of the broader culture.

Saul believes that the corporatists are influencing government policy—and the general direction of society—in a dangerous



Saul's incisive elegance and epigrammatic wit

degree. He argues that big business has been particularly successful in getting its own ideology widely accepted, from its insistence that the "global marketplace" is its destiny, to the new emphasis on karate and technical training in schools and universities, to governments' current obsession with classifying defilets. (While Saul admits that defilets must be tackled, he thinks that business's emphasis on national debt reduction is a serious error in policy.) He also criticizes the downing of governments. Governments, he argues, have traditionally defended society from the excesses of the corporatists, and have exercised a share of their profits to help support social programs.)

For Saul, society's general acceptance of the corporatist view as a kind of "creation myth" amounts to an unconsciously self-destructive act that will lead to collapsing social infrastructures, weak governments, a passive, culturally ignorant workforce and a degraded environment. Yet, his rather bleak view does not prevent him from making some highly original attacks on the corporatist mentality. Most notably, he argues that the vast overconsumption of the managerial elites—which, following Adam Smith, he sees as the unproductive sector of business—"free's for more important labor in keeping the room away in depression than is any over-expansion of government services."

This is Saul's crucial point, that big business itself is the source of much of society's waste and inefficiency. But like so many of his analyses, generalizations, it suffers from a lack of detailed examples and analysis to back it up. Yet, the overall slant of his argument is forceful, and when he does tie it to specific cases, he can be powerfully persuasive, as in his examination of President Bill Clinton's failure to introduce a comprehensive healthcare system for all Americans. As Saul shows, the corporatist mentality is so ingrained in the medical establishment that even those who report who work in favor of universal healthcare created such a complex, unworkable plan that it ultimately almost everyone. And so, in the end, the democratic will of the electorate was thwarted.

Saul offers some important ideas for taming the big corporations, including international agreements that would establish decent minimum wages and tax rates—Saul estimates that, in the global economy, the large companies pay an average of only 13 per cent on their profits—as well as strong environmental protection laws. Such measures would prevent them from taking countries to court by diverting to some where the cost of business is lower.

Yet, ultimately, the governments that would have to create such legislation are no better than the people who elect them. At the heart of Saul's book is a vision of human beings as more than consumers and employees, motivated by the narrowest kind of self-interest. *The Unconscious Civilization* is a plea to revive the old, humanistic idea of the citizen—as concerned, thoughtful individuals dedicated to a disinterested way to the good of the society as a whole. Only the democratically combined actions of such people, Saul believes, will ever allow the corporatist juggernaut.

JOHN DEMOSKO

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*The Jekyll-Hyde
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THEATRE

The two faces of adoration

**DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE:
A LOVE STORY**
By James W. Nichol
Directed by Neil Menon

A logical brand is clashing with the brilliant Dr. Henry Jekyll, who believes that man's darkness can be accessed by science. "What is appropriate for a man's adoration?" asks the friend, who objects on religious grounds to the concept of evolution. In *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, the new drama by Stratford, Ont., playwright James W. Nichol playing at Winnipeg's Manitoba Theatre Centre (MTC), the question could just as well be "What is appropriate for a man's feelings?" As much as Nichol's story puts a modern spin on the Robert Louis Stevenson tale, his drama deals with more elevated questions of desire, repression and violence. Stevenson himself might not approve of the telling, but he would appreciate the chilling and convenient.

A production involving the MTC (where it runs until Jan. 27), Toronto's Canadian

Stage Company (Feb. 15 to March 16), Theatre Calgary (April 5 to 26) and The Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company (May 2 to May 26), the play runs with Stevenson's basic premise. In Victorian England, Jekyll (Lee Corbitt) is fascinated by Darwin's theories and the idea that man can practically improve himself. The screen he conceives and tests on himself creates the dangerous Edward Hyde. But where Stevenson's Hyde is the essence of evil, Nichol—whose 13 plays include an acclaimed stage version of Margaret Laurence's *The Stone Angel*—sees him as an explosive extension of the doctor's personality. This Hyde (David Shore) is more sinister than monstrous.

Played by stage and screen actor Carlsson, Jekyll is a handsome, polished man who tries to live his life in a bubble. If he works and is a lawyer, a widower, Jekyll is ultimately negligent and dangerously affectionate towards his teenage daughter, Melissa (Megan Leitch). Stage writer on *Sketch* turns as a Hyde who is a much lighter character than Jekyll, a dandy who gives her room to his feelings but becomes horrified when he cannot keep his more violent impulses in check. Both actors deliver measured, thoughtful performances as their characters illustrate the difficulty of negotiating emotion, love and desire.

Director Neil Menon and his friend (designer Kevin Landreth) use shadow and light in compelling effect. Violence and passion also happen behind a blacklit screen, creating more shadowy plays. Blinding white light pushes them behind the curtains in the laboratory. However, some parts of the play don't make sense. The ongoing opening debate about evolution keeps looping back to Jekyll's first taste of Hyde. At one point, while Jekyll is having a quiet moment with his daughter, Hyde bolts across the stage behind them, powerfully suggesting monstrous impulses. But the focus of that stage is broken when Hyde does it twice more later in the play. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde—A Love Story* leaves an unpleasant aftertaste. But it is a measure of the play's power that the better scenes linger.

RANDAL McILROY

Search for
questions of desire,
repression and violence

The long goodbye

*A devilishly funny play
laughs in death's face*

WGBL
Written and directed by Morris Panych

The celebrated West Coast playwright Morris Panych knows that the silver lining in many a dark cloud consists of laughter. His popular 1991 play, *Stones*, focused on a man who was about to jump from a tall building—and turned his predicament into comedy. Panych's latest work for the stage is his funniest yet, even though it is about an old woman on her deathbed. In April—now playing at Toronto's Tarragon Theatre (following highly successful runs at Victoria and Vancouver)—a dyspeptic, mid-designed bank clerk, Kemp (Brian Tree), leaves his job to attend a dying old aunt in another city. But when Grace (Joyce Campbell) refuses to fade away, his growing impatience and need to do her in, becomes an act of extreme. Kemp puts up a suicide machine—and nearly kills himself while demonstrating it to her.

There is something reassuring of a Broadway cartoon in all that, not just the slapstick violence, but also the naked honesty. *What* is so amusing partly because it is credible about ages that, in real life, have to be suppressed. In addition, Kemp's outrageous treatment of the old woman helps set up a memorably surprising climax. It occurs when Kemp discovers the true nature of his relationship to Grace, and it is played by Tree with such exquisite comic timing that it seems as if the audience's laughter will never stop.

What creates a bewitching dynamic between Grace's actions—the entire play she speaks only a few lines—and Kemp's extreme devotion of his own outrageous. And designer Ken Macdonald's set of walls frayed in and collapse is physically emblematic of the deterioration and weakening these two lives. But there are problems with the opening scenes, where the frequent blackouts are irritating, and the closing ones, where the attempt to portray the fading of Kemp's attention for Grace is sentimental and unconvincing. What is not quite about *What* is not the obvious movement towards love, but the subtle, more inspired dancing on the coals of lust and hate.

JOHN BENDER

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IGW/MS



The trials of a 'Champagne Socialist'

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

There is some standard, despatched advice for anyone considering getting married: It is to first take your beloved on a two-week trip in a car containing another couple. You learn a lot that way.

There is, in a similar field, another form of education. It is to spend a week imprisoned in a Ski Cabin with Groen Children. You learn things you never knew before. For starters, all Groen Children regard all Fathers as helpless idiots. It's a good beginning for a Holiday.

This would be at Whistler, 90 kilometres north of Vancouver on the Hornsbyville Bus. Where the deadly Snowboarders threaten to decapitate you. Where the mountains are full of spending Japanese visitors whose psychic guru gives the impression the 1980s are here again—or have just arrived in Tokyo.

In the Ski Cabin, the Groen Children have the usual problem of who gets the best beds, the biggest Father has reasoned he will have nothing to do with the matter. In an apartment apparently worked out at the last airport, they will sleep—three days on, three days off—the good bedroom for the demanding holiday coach. Peace to our time.

Groen Children in a Ski Cabin, as Father should have guessed, go through bouts of Shermans marching through Georgia. Also Fire Logs. There is the firing, apparently, that unless the Fireplace is alive at all hours, including close to dawn, the Holiday quest will be ruined. Never mind the runs of the Via-cable. Fire Logs must never die.

There is the matter of the House Guest and the Grovies. The House Guest provides the culinary trust of the season. Those large slabs of lamb B.C. steaks are purchased, costing approximately half the sum needed to build the CRT route to the Pacific.

For three days—proceeds interminable—the kitchen is sealed in time, sequestered to energy in the precious Grovies. Three days go by. So does the anticipation for the last.

Also, on emerging from the busy door, what we have instead is Salmon Jerky. It



could be shipped north to the Yukon gold miners as Perennials. Or for reselling boots. The House Guest is mortified.

The Groen Children do not notice. They are into Hoovering. They do not eat. They Hoover. The prized Egg Nog that Father has been saving for his Run to Hooverdam, as it were, is sold.

This presents the most athletic challenge of a Holiday in a Ski Cabin, at a place that all the ski magazines say has the best slopes in the world. The House Guest is spent in emergency runs to the Skiaparricourt.

At one end of the assembly line are multi-slates of food. At the other end is the Hoover brigade. A puzzled Father finds he is spending more time in the KCA than he is on the slopes.

There is the matter of all the shouted debates late at night in front of the Fire Logs. One of the Groen Children—tired of being described as a Gacci-Ratex offspring—has

discovered, to his great delight, a new name for Father: the one who supplies the Egg Nog. That is being Hoovered.

It is Champagne Socialist and he thinks that the most delicious non-alcohol ever invented. It is not, of course. Father is accustomed to being called a Languorous Ethereal and a Cuddly Conquistador and so just heads out to the KCA for more Egg Nog.

There is the matter, at great concern to Groen Children, of the lethal presence of Father on the slopes. Apparently his girth goes back to the days when the Norwegians started gliding down the hills on barrel slaves. This embarrasses Groen Children, who do not want to be seen with such an anthropological apparition—unless it is on a Christmas's steep Hochschamb Mountains where they serve Baked Rye with roasted Garlic.

The Expedition is mounted, therefore, to bring Father into the 1980s (out of the 1950s while skipping the war, they claimed) in fashionable Ski Wear. What is found, for a price close to what it took to build the New Arrow, is a multi-pocketed jacket that has so many pockets you could tie all the leftover Salmon Jerky and never find it until spring break-up.

Its major feature, seen into the clothing, is a Rescue Detector that sends out a solar signal when you are buried in an avalanche. Since the way Father skis, he would never get closer to an avalanche than he would to Kim Campbell, this is very useful but—its clerk explains—it would mean he would have a clean corpse and Groen Children could give him a decent burial. By now it is a misty night, which will lead to bankruptcy first—Groen

Children Hoovering the Egg Nog or buying avalanche detectors that will locate the body. The only considerer is truth magazines.

For some reason—'Part Lago' the Egg Nog—the champagne colour of the Ski Cabin requires large lathings of truth magazines. The Life & Times of Jean Chrétien has mouldering on the rag and I now know more about the intimate details of Lady Thatcher than I do about my own Ski jacket. Because it is such a well-worn item, subject, we have not yet brought up the question of the showers. The lathings of sex bodies lighting for sufficient hot water would help General Eisenhower. The solution, for some, is to rise ever earlier in the morning to sneak a jump-in contraption that

It leads, eventually, to some Groen Child rising at 3 a.m. for a shower just as the last Groen Child from the night before is stepping out of the bath.

If I were you, I'd try the two-week car trip.

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